

## Second Intifada in the offing?

# Palestinians battle Israeli soldiers to protest tunnel excavation

**Combined News Reports**  
**OCCUPIED JERUSALEM**—Palestinian demonstrators clashed with Israeli troops and police in occupied East Jerusalem for a second day, Wednesday. The violence spread to several West Bank cities, in protests against an Israeli project in Jerusalem's walled old city. Early reports said four Palestinians were killed and at least 300 injured during the clashes. In clashes with the Israeli army in Ramallah two Palestinian police officers were killed and about 165 injured.

Angry Palestinians threw stones and bottles at Israeli police in East Jerusalem and other Palestinian towns to protest Israel's opening of a controversial tunnel near several of the holiest sites in this disputed city a day earlier.

Israeli police retaliated by firing at demonstrators killing at least one Palestinian and injuring dozens, according to Palestinian radio.

The sight of Palestinians throwing stones at Israeli army and police fueled Israeli fears that a second Palestinian Intifada was about to be unleashed.

Palestinians were responding to Yasser Arafat's call for a

day of demonstrations in response to Israel's surprise pre-dawn excavation Tuesday to complete a long-disputed tunnel below the edge of the Al Aqsa mosque and the Temple Mount, a site sacred to Muslims and Jews alike. Arab leaders reacted in outrage, and stone-throwing Palestinian youths battled police through much of the day Tuesday, briefly driving Jewish worshippers from the Western Wall.

An angry Arafat, speaking at a graduation in the Gaza Strip Tuesday, condemned the tunnel project as a "crime against (Islamic) religious and holy places" and said it violated the spirit of the Israeli-Palestinian peace process.

"We feel this is a direct affront to both christian and muslim holy places, and to Palestinian rights," member of the Palestine National Authority Dr Hanan Ashrawi told reporters Wednesday.

But Israeli mayor of the city, Ehud Olmert, was defiant. "This is our city. It is a united city, and we are exercising the natural authorities of the government in such a city," he said.

The Jerusalem issue is perhaps the most sensitive in the

Israeli-Palestinian dispute. Palestinians demonstrated that fact Wednesday by confronting Israeli troops for many hours in several parts of Jerusalem, and in at least three west bank cities.

Shopkeepers in East Jerusalem quickly shuttered their stores observing a call by Islamic leaders to remain closed until noon Wednesday.

Still, the incidents, reminiscent of the 1993 Israeli-Palestinian peace accord, underscored current tensions between the two sides. And they illustrated the ease with which political confrontation here can flare into violence, particularly in Jerusalem, the city at the heart of the conflict.

The tunnel, which traces an ancient roadway, stretches 500 yards beside the Western Wall, and alongside the compound known to Jews as the Temple Mount and to Arabs as Haram al Sharif, the Noble Sanctuary. The compound houses two mosques, the Dome of the Rock, and Al Aqsa, the third holiest site to Muslims.

Palestinians say they fear that the tunnel could undermine the foundations of the mosques and other buildings nearby and provide an easy target to extremists who might wish to damage the Islamic holy places.

But several also said the decision to open the tunnel, made by the previous government but put in force under the hard-line administration of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, was an important

symbol, intended to assert Israeli sovereignty over all of Jerusalem.

Adnan Hussein, executive director of the Waqf, the Muslim religious council that administers the Old City's Islamic sites, said the tunnel's excavation was in line with the new government's recent actions to expand settlements on the West Bank and confiscate land from Palestinians in east Jerusalem.

Israeli opposition leaders endorsed that view, and Tel Aviv Mayor Roni Milo, a Likud moderate, said it was foolish of Netanyahu to force the issue of the Temple Mount before withdrawing Israel's army from most of Hebron, as required by treaty six months

ago.

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## Les Tchétchènes solidaires entre la Jordanie et Grozny

Voir page 12

## Father of two children confesses to their murder

**AMMAN (Star)**—The father of the two children who were poisoned to death two weeks ago has confessed to their murder Wednesday closing the chapter on one of the most shocking murder cases in Jordan in recent years.

The father of Haneen, 9, and Hani, 6, Al Masri confessed to giving his children one cyanide tablet each on the morning of the murder. He said he bought the lethal tablets when he was in Canada recently.

Public Security Director Gen. Nasoub Muheiddin said the father, M. Al Masri, of the two children had confessed to the murder before Public Attorney Mr Fathi Rifai and Criminal Court Public Prosecutor Mr Abdel Aziz Al Rawashdeh. He said the motive behind this heinous crime appeared to be related to domestic conflicts between the accused and his wife.

The Star has learned that investigators became suspicious of the father after they discovered discrepancies in his account of that morning's events. While he claimed he left with his wife at 6:45 in the morning of Wednesday 11 September, his wife, who

drove him to work each morning before returning to her children, said he went back to the apartment saying that he had to use the bathroom.

The mother later revealed that her husband had attempted to kill his children once before. She told investigators that a month and half ago she woke up at night by the smell of gas and discovered that the gas bottle was moved into the children's bedroom while the father was sitting in the living room.

Police focused their attention on the father after excluding forced entry into the apartment by an intruder. The fact that post mortem has confirmed that the poisonous material was in fact cyanide, a substance that was not easily available in Jordan, excluded the possibility that the children may have had access to it.

It is not clear what drove the father to commit this terrible crime which caught public attention since day one. But police will now try to construct a psychological profile of the father to determine what could have driven him to commit the murders. He is to be formally charged this week. ■

## Ordinary session to be delayed while deputies try to put their House in order

By Hamdan Al Halli

**Special to The Star**  
**THE LATEST** resignations of deputies from the Lower House of Parliament put the House at a crucial juncture. Informed sources told *The Star* that the latest developments add to the possibility of postponing the ordinary session of Parliament, which was scheduled to be held on first October.

But sources now predict that His Majesty King Hussein will delay the convening of Parliament for the full two months allowed under the Constitution. During this period there will be attempts to relax strained relations between the government and the Lower House. That tension was behind the sudden termination of the last extraordinary session.

However, Prime Minister Mr Abdel Karim Kabariti has earlier assured the Speakers of the Lower and Upper Houses, Ahmed Al Lawzi and Sa'ad Hayel Al Sroor, that the ordinary session will be held on its Constitutional date.

But observers believe the deputies have themselves to blame for the latest internal crisis. They have been divided ever since 22 opposition deputies stood firm against the government's bread and fodder measures. The House failed to support recommendations made by a special committee on the issue, forcing even moderate and centrist deputies to openly express their protest against the policies of the government.

Now many deputies feel the House has lost its clout and self esteem and, more importantly, it has failed to assume its basic supervisory and legislative role.

The hiatus can serve another purpose, of course. It can be used to form another government, but any change in the composition of the government will break the 22 deputy-minister grip the current premier has over the House. Those deputies form a strong bloc inside the House and have succeeded in mobilizing their colleagues when the Prime Minister needed inside support.

As a result the only deputy/minister who criticized the cabinet's bread and fodder policies was the leftist Minister of Agriculture Dr Mustafa Shneikat.

The 18 deputies of the National Action Front (NAF) kept their silence since five of their members are in the Kabariti cabinet.

The situation became more challenging when 15 Islamic deputies and independent deputy Tala' Obaidat threatened to resign collectively to protest government policies. If they decide to carry out their threat it would be a terrible setback for both Mr Kabariti and Speaker Sroor.

Meanwhile, observers believe the best solution to end the political deadlock would be for the King to dissolve Parliament and call for early elections. Another option is to delay the coming ordinary session, giving deputies and Mr Kabariti a last chance to bury the hatchet. ■

## Pullback of carrier may signal easing of Iraqi crisis

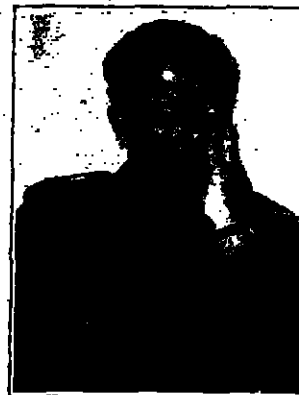
LA Times-Washington Post News Service

**KUWAIT CITY**—Even as more US soldiers arrived in this sheikdom Sunday, US Defense Secretary William J. Perry said the United States may withdraw one of its two aircraft carriers now in the region because Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein appears to be backing down from his confrontation with the United States.

"All of the evidence that I have seen in the last four or five days is positive," said Perry, quoted by reporters accompanying him on a flight from Finland to Sweden. "I truly believe Iraq is backing off the threatening actions they were taking a week ago."

His comments reflected what officials here see as the probable conclusion of the latest face-off with Iraq. The crisis seemed to be ending as quickly as it began: Only a week ago Perry was on an urgent tour of the Middle East to request the help of Kuwait, Bahrain and Saudi Arabia to oppose any new challenge from the Iraqi president.

The latest episode began Aug. 31, when Saddam sent tanks and 30,000 troops of his



Saddam Hussein

elite Revolutionary Guard into northern Iraq to help a Kurdish faction defeat a rival group. By helping Masoud Barzani's Democratic Party of Kurdistan take control of the north, Saddam appeared to win influence in the region for the first time since his defeat in the 1991 Gulf war.

But he paid a price for his diplomatic and political gains: 44 US cruise missiles launched Sept. 3 and 4 wiped out air defense installations near Baghdad, and the United States unilaterally expanded a "no-fly" zone in southern Iraq.

He also lost out on early implementation of a previously approved "oil for food" deal that would have allowed Iraq to sell controlled quantities of oil to pay for food and humanitarian supplies. Madeleine Albright, the US ambassador to the United Nations, said Sunday that the oil sales will not take place until it is deemed safe for UN monitors to go into northern Iraq "comfortably."

Iraq's retreat began Sept. 13—amid strong indications that the United States was preparing an even stronger military strike—when Saddam announced that Iraqi forces would desert from firing again at US aircraft patrolling "no-fly" zones in northern and southern Iraq.

The ground troops, however, will remain and complete a training exercise in the desert 25 miles south of the Iraqi border, Perry said.

The US buildup continued

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ABOARD MIR-22 SPACE STATION: Astronaut Terrence W. Wilcutt, pilot of the space shuttle Atlantis, floats in the Mir Core, Sept. 21, during day 6 of STS-79 mission. UPI

## Government and opposition Door remains open for dialogue despite tension

By Raed Al Abed

Star Staff Writer

**AFTER** A month of riding high in the battlefield seeking to oust the government, the opposition camp received a fierce counter-strike. It was launched by the Prime Minister, Abdel Karim Al Kabariti, on Monday. (See related story on page two).

Coming out of the darkness, Mr Kabariti fired on all fronts, local and Arab ones. The Prime Minister was clearly irked, described his opponents as "people in crises," who based their policies on "attacking the peace treaty." The opposition is "creating problems, and do not want to solve it."

The opposition "has the diagnosis but lacks the treatment," he added that "there is poverty and there is unemployment" but "it is possible, for the government to solve these problems within the current available potentials in the country." He asked the opposition to provide alternatives to the government policies. "I am calling upon the opposition: give me your options. Where are the options that the opposition presented?"

Kabariti asked for coherence and solutions to deal with problems of the country.

Observers are terming the relations between the government and opposition as a political crisis that is becoming more complicated with tensions rapidly escalating. They point out that both the government and opposition are responsible for the "no-solution" status in the country.

The strain reached its height when the authorities arrested the editor-in-chief of *Al Sabeel* weekly newspaper Hilmi Al Asmar who is a member of the Shura Council of the Islamic Action Front (IAF). He was arrested last week after his paper ran a front page story describing details of the alleged torture of a Hamas sympathizer who was detained in Jordan.

The Prime Minister strongly denied *Al Sabeel*'s report, and defended the security institution's against the allegations of human

Continued on page2

## Outdoor festival: Gazans way out from miserable reality

By Ann LoLordo  
LA Washington Post News Service

**GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip**—It's Thursday, and the guys have gathered for a night out on the town. Pressed and primed, they arrive at the beachfront with dancing shoes on. But the Egyptian band they came to hear won't be playing this night. Israeli authorities stopped the musicians at the Egyptian border and turned them back.

Disappointed but undeterred, Mohammed Abu Halil and his friends still pay the \$3 entrance fee. It will take more than checkpoint politics to ruin their fun. Says Mazen Mosa, 24, "You just throw

your suffering into the sea." Gaza is usually associated more with misery than relaxation. Its economy is dismal; the unemployment rate tops 50 percent. Sanitation is primitive, with pipes dumping raw sewage into the blue Mediterranean. But despite or perhaps because of the grim conditions, hundreds of young Palestinians come to the Zaharat el Medina tourist village for its weekly music festival.

The outdoor concerts are something new in this territory, a place struggling to define itself now that it is governed by the Palestinian Authority instead of Israel.

The night life at the Gaza Nights Festival offers no alcohol and few opportunities for



Reality bites in Gaza

romance, because traditional-minded Muslim women rarely venture out unescorted.

But the concerts provide an opportunity to socialize and an evening of escape for people hemmed in by an Israeli mili-

tary closure now in its eighth month. The closure, imposed after a series of bombings in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, prevents Gazans from leaving this rectangular strip of land and from commuting to jobs in Is-

rael.

The festival began in mid-summer, and the concerts are held at a resort village on the Mediterranean where holiday cabins line the beach and water sports and satellite dishes are free of charge. Popular Israeli-Arab singer Raed Kabaha drew a crowd of 6,000.

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## A market for satire

## Abd Rabbo pokes fun at political reality

By Munther Hamdan  
Star Staff Writer

JORDANIANS ARE often accused of being too serious and lacking a sense of humor. But the recent debut of the weekly satirical newspaper *Abd Rabbo* is altering the image of the grumpy and cantankerous Jordanians. *Abd Rabbo*, or "Slave of his God," as its editors translated the title into English, is the first newspaper of its kind in Jordan where no serious news is always good and funny news.

Since its first issue, which included an interview with a donkey, the paper persisted to poke fun at sensitive political and social issues.

The highlight of its satirical approach is its depiction of political personalities: they are depicted as street children, new-born babies and even fundamentalist Iranian clergy.

Jordanians are not used to this sort of irony. The advent of the sensational weekly press five years ago has loosened them up a little bit—they read about alleged corruption scandals in official circles, and about social issues that were for long considered a taboo to be discussed in print. But *Abd Rabbo*, which has seen its sales soar every week, has taken the reader to a new frontier where he or she can actually enjoy a good laugh about public figures and their relationships with the public. The newspaper's appeal reflects a sense of public loss in politics. As Jordanians become more concerned about their living standards, they tend to turn away from the official line. *Abd Rabbo* provides a way for a frustrated public to get even with those who they see as being responsible for their worsening economic and social conditions.

The tabloid's fluffy features, a political interview with a dog for example, is a kind of escape therapy for its readers—they take readers away from the passive and tense atmosphere usually created by every-

day political and economic pressures. But while the paper's features and columns seem at the first glance to be funny and irrelevant, deep down they are loaded with sarcasm and criticism of social and political hypocrisy and the failing performance of public institutions.

"Sarcasm is part of a comprehensive resistance to all the forms of oppression in the world," says Yusef Gheishan, editor of *Abd Rabbo*. Such sarcastic approach comes up whenever there is class discrepancies and hunger in the society, he adds. The main goal of the paper is to convey to the average reader meanings which he or she can not figure out from serious and intellectual articles. The paper also draws people's attention to the very motives behind certain governmental decisions.

But sarcasm is not a simple approach anyway. One has to read between the lines to get the message. This makes *Abd Rabbo* a newspaper that also appeals to intellectual readers who are acquainted with the behind-the-scenes politics of the country. In this respect, Gheishan and his colleagues are living in a perpetual anxiety to come up with new ideas and uncover hidden facts. They are required all the time to keep themselves abreast with the latest social and political developments in the kingdom as well as in the world and know the different social and cultural contexts. When they apply a certain joke or sarcasm to a certain social context, the same joke might not fit another context, something which would spoil the intended humor or criticism.

"We are not clowns of the Sultans, we write about serious topics in a sarcastic manner. One of the readers who seemed to have absorbed the goal of our newspaper said that *Abd Rabbo* is the most serious publication in Jordan," Gheishan says.

One way to attract readers is to shock them; to present something they have never been used to before. That is what the

editors hope to achieve when interviewing a donkey or a dog, or affixing the head of a minister on a baby's body.

Even the horoscope column is unconventional, where people are not fed the false promises of a happy and prosperous future but are warned of getting beaten by the neighbor, the mother-in-law or run down by a taxi driver. The same applies to their economic page.

"We don't look down on others, we criticize officials in order to break the psychological barrier between citizens and officials," Gheishan stresses.

The idea of the satirical press is not a new one. There have been attempts in the past to publish such papers along Lebanese and Egyptian examples. "Al Sareeh" was the first satirical paper in Jordan back in the forties. Its editor was Hashem Al Sab'e and it combined sarcasm with satire," says Abdallah Hamdan, editor-in-chief of *Amman Cultural Magazine*. According to Gheishan, a number of Jordanians were frequent contributors to that sort of publications back then including the venerable poet Arar "whose poems were considered the most beautiful sarcasm." Other writers who followed and resorted to satire were Lutfi Malhas, Yaqoub Uweis and Fakhri Qawar among others.

Before *Abd Rabbo* came into being, there were previous but short-lived attempts to issue satirical newspapers. Muhammad Tumulahi briefly published *Al Rasheef* (The Pavement). He then made another attempt with *Qif* (Stop), but that paper also folded.

The role of the press in shaping the tastes and views of readers has been a controversial issue since the new Press and Publication Law removed obstacles that had previously prevented Jordanians from publishing their own newspapers and magazines. While some see *Abd Rabbo* as a newspaper committed to national issues and concerns, others see it as a freak and an affront to serious journalism.



Raja Talab, editor of *Al Hadath* weekly, says that *Abd Rabbo* does not take into consideration Jordanian social and moral codes by portraying ministers in humiliating positions. Hamdan thinks that for *Abd Rabbo* to continue success, its editors must benefit from the experience of previous papers in the absence of democracy. He says that though we enjoy democracy, our officials have not got used to such sarcasm.

In an unpredictable and volatile political

and social environment, *Abd Rabbo* is a newspaper where people can get a release from everyday hardships. But will *Abd Rabbo* be a survivor, if and when it runs out of topics?

Talab says that in time people will want more than laughs and they will forget the newspaper. But Gheishan responds that *Abd Rabbo* gives its readers more ideas than those of a full program of a political party.

## Door remains open for dialogue despite tension

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rights violation. The arrest of Al Asmar was considered by the Islamic movement as "aimed to escalate the tension with movement." The Muslim Brotherhood, the major social and political movement in the country, accused the government of "escalating tension with the opposition."

"Tension is being escalated by the government alone, which has carried out many unjustified arrests and it has also humiliated detainees. And arrests are going on," Mr. Abdel Majid Thuneibat, the Overseer of the Muslim Brotherhood in Jordan, told *The Star*. The Brotherhood condemned what they call the "extreme attacks on public liberties," and it demands "the immediate release of all detainees."

Mr. Bassam Al Omoush, an Islamist deputy, and the head of the public liberties committee in the Lower House, talked about a number of arrests which took place in the aftermath of the Karak riots, last month. Al Omoush attacked Kabariiti's denial of Al Sabeel's report, and claimed that the authorities had called Al Sabeel offices and threatening its editors.

The head of the public liberties committee claimed that the committee was allowed to visit all prisons in the country except those of the General Intelligence Department.

"We knocked on all doors, whether of the government or the GID, the answer was either too busy or not available, it was all locked," Al Omoush said.

According to Islamic sources, Mr. Kabariiti was disturbed about the Hamas movement in Jordan, as their officials sent a letter to HRH Prince Hassan complaining about the arrest of its activists in Jordan. "Hamas here is practicing a political role, we can't find any pretext about the arrests against its supporters," Al Omoush said. "It is the government which is creating problems with everybody."

It is clear for people that this "government is facing rejection from popular and political parties," Al Thuneibat added. "Even leading political personalities share the same view," he added. "Therefore, the presence of this government will affect the Jordanian process on all fields and will intensify the congested situation particularly in the light of the government's determination on its decision and practices."

The Muslim Brotherhood adopted the same stand of other leftist and nationalist political forces in calling for the resignation of the government, but this does not mean "we close the door on dialogue with any party," he said. The movement has one condition however: "such a dialogue should be directed towards finding an exit to all the current issues which negatively affect the country and the people."

Thuneibat denied press reports which claimed that the Muslim Brotherhood asked to meet the King to discuss the strained situation in the country. "Lately, we did not ask for such a meeting. But we are looking forward to meeting His Majesty."

The Islamic movement denounced Kabariiti's accusations that they "have no option to present."

Al Omoush is ready to challenge Kabariiti in a debate. "If he finds this logical then we are ready to meet wherever he likes," He added that "We always have the initiative, our history proves that; whether concerning unemployment and poverty or towards building a balanced relation with Iraq and the Gulf states," Al Omoush concluded.

## Kabariiti lashes out at opposition; defends his policies

By a Star Staff Writer

PRIME MINISTER Abdel Karim Kabariiti's statements to the press corps on Monday have revealed a growing tension between the government and the opposition. Mr. Kabariiti described the opposition as "crisis-laden" whose objective was not to provide solutions to the country's problems but to attack the government and its policies at any price.

The press conference marked a departure from Mr. Kabariiti's style of confrontation. By going to the press and turning the heat on the opposition, the premier is hoping to deflect a recent wave of bad press that his government has been receiving.

He depicted the opposition as incapable of offering practical solutions to the country's problems of poverty and unemployment. In particular, Mr. Kabariiti appeared to end a

shaky truce with the Islamists by launching his own counter-attack to offset increasing calls by members of the Islamic Action Front (IAF) for Mr. Kabariiti's resignation.

He accused the opposition of avoiding constructive dialogue with the government and of opposing him and his policies for the sake of maintaining their position.

Mr. Kabariiti's confident and bold approach in Monday's meeting weakened speculations that his government was gasping its last breath—as the opposition and its papers have been predicting. He appeared in full control, or at least gave that impression. But he also went into pains to defend his policies especially his controversial decision to float the price of bread, which triggered riots in the southern towns of the Kingdom last month. Mr. Kabariiti attacked his opponents for distorting the government's



Kabariiti and Al Moasher meet the press

position on the issue expressing his anger at those critics who did not acknowledge the fact that Jordanians were compensated for the difference in bread prices. He pointed that

since international wheat prices were falling, the government would encourage the private sector to import wheat which could lead to a drop in bread prices.

Mr. Kabariiti also defended his government record in fighting corruption, but admitted that it was difficult to bring "symbols" of corruption to court. But he said the government's bread and fodder policy had greatly curtailed corruption and misuse of subsidy. He said apimal feed merchants and smugglers of sheep and weapons, who made millions, were defeated because of the new policy.

While he warned that poverty and unemployment were two problems that needed time and collective effort to solve, the Prime Minister noted that one important factor in the process must be to change how Jordanians view work especially their preference for public sector jobs. He said unemployment could be solved if Jordanians begin to accept jobs that are now handled by over 400,000 guest laborers in Jordan.

Mr. Kabariiti's Iraq policy, a main issue of conflict between him and the opposition bloc, was reaffirmed during the press conference. He said while Jordanians enjoy a national sense of steadfastness with the Iraqi people, he could not be expected to sacrifice Jordan's national interests and principles by supporting regimes that "build their rule on the skulls of their people." Mr. Kabariiti noted that before Iraq invaded Kuwait, Jordan's economic interests were mostly concentrated with the Gulf countries and not Iraq.

He expressed his concern over progress in the peace process and its immediate benefits to Jordanians. He described Jordan's relations with the Palestine National Authority (PNA) as strategic regardless of certain sensitivities and disclosed that Jordan had informed the Israeli government this week that it considers every settlement that

is built in the West Bank as being built in the East Bank.

Mr. Kabariiti said his program rests on three solid foundations: the establishment of the Throne, the rule of law and the respect of the military and security institutions. Referring to last week's arrest of Mr. Hilmi Al Asmar, chief editor of *Al Sabeel* weekly, the unofficial mouthpiece of the IAF, Mr. Kabariiti said the allegations printed in the paper against security forces interrogation methods were false and groundless.

He disclosed that Mr. Al Asmar had admitted that he was forced to publish the article, which described how a Jordanian had been tortured and humiliated by the security authorities, by the IAF executive bureau. Mr. Kabariiti said Mr. Al Asmar will be tried for violating the Press and Publication Law.

## Outdoor festival, new diversionary

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Palestinian uprising, the "intifada," began in 1987. In the last year, per capita income has dropped to \$700, from \$1,200.

"People have been saying there is going to be an explosion here," says Ron Wilkinson, a United Nations Relief and Works Agency staff member in Gaza. "They said the same thing during the Gulf War when there was a six-week curfew, and there was no explosion. They've been through so much, and they keep on putting their chins up."

The people in Halil's circle of friends are university-educated, anxious to begin careers or pursue advanced degrees—and struggling to find work.

But for a few short hours on a Thursday night, they can go to the festival to forget their worries.

In the past, the men would have socialized at someone's house—an evening of cards or games of chess. Now, they come to the music festival.

"They should give us cards, now to get in every Thursday," says Halil.

For Halil and others, Gaza is home. The teenagers of the intifada are now young men waiting for the dividends of peace.

"We live in freedom," says Yusef Wadi, a 24-year-old social worker. "But economically it's very hard. We think all the time about traveling outside the country because the conditions are hard."

A graduate of An Najah National University in the West Bank, Wadi wants to earn a master's degree. He

wants to travel to Jerusalem, but the military closure keeps him in Gaza. Mazen Mosa, trained as a cameraman, hopes to finish his studies and get a job in his field. Nasir Ahmed, 20, wonders whether Americans think of Palestinians only as terrorists.

"We talk from our heart," he says. "Being together is something."

Their spirits still seem high. This circle of friends laughs and jokes. When the band launches into a peppy tune, the guys urge Halil to dance. He gladly obliges, and he is neither shy nor clumsy. He swivels his hips and prances in a kind of Arabic step dance. "Go, go," Wadi yells. "This is belly dancing," another friend teases.

Applause greets his final step. The band strikes up a popular love song. And the men nearly swoon with recognition. Flushed and excited, Halil leads his comrades in song. "From one touch of love, I found myself loving you."

The Gaza night fills with their hearty voices.

## Pullback of carrier may signal easing of Iraqi crisis

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This week with the arrival of 600 more members of the US Army's 1st Cavalry from Fort Hood, Texas. About 3000 soldiers have reached Kuwait since last Thursday, and the remainder are expected in the next few days.

Meanwhile, an official Iraqi newspaper said Sunday that a human rights organization will try to trace 600 Kuwaitis missing since the occupation of this country in 1991-92—a sign that Saddam may be adopting a more accommodating stance in the wake of the recent confrontation.

Accounting for the missing men, women and children is one of the key conditions set by the United States and Kuwait for lifting the ban on oil sales by Iraq.

Meanwhile in New York, Turkish Foreign Minister Tansu Ciller reassured US Secretary of State Warren Christopher on Monday that the Ankara government will not cooperate in any way with President Saddam Hussein despite a "vacuum of power" in northern Iraq that jeopardizes Turkish security.

"We have stood by our ally, the United States, and we hope to expand that," Ciller told reporters before a 40-minute meeting with Christopher. That session was dominated by the situation in northern Iraq.

State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns said the meeting "reflected the fact that the United States and Turkey have identical views on northern Iraq."

For Christopher, the talks were the first encouraging news in weeks concerning the fraying international coalition that fought against Iraq in the Gulf War in 1991.

Turkey, most Arab members of the coalition, France and Russia had all expressed doubts about the US attack on sites in southern Iraq. US policy-makers were especially concerned that Turkey, which replaced its pro-Western government with a cabinet led by an Islamic party earlier this year, was pulling away from the coalition.

On Saturday, Ciller was quoted by The New York Times as saying that Turkey was ready to cooperate with Saddam if the Iraqi leader sought to "put an end to terror-

ist infiltration" by guerrillas of the anti-Turkish PKK faction of Kurds. But Ciller said Monday that she had been misunderstood. She said Turkey is determined to stop the influx of refugees and PKK guerrillas across the Iraq-Turkey border "but we cannot ask Saddam to do that for us."

Burns said the interview "caused anxiety in Washington." But after the meeting, he said, "We are now satisfied by what we heard from Ciller."

Ciller said Turkey will continue to control a narrow "security zone" in northern Iraq. Burns said she assured Christopher that the Turkish occupation of the zone was "temporary" although she did not indicate when the Turkish troops will be withdrawn.

Burns said Christopher and Ciller also agreed to encourage Kurdish faction leader Masoud Barzani, whose Kurdish Democratic Party militia joined in the Iraqi attack on Irbil, to form a new alliance with ethnic Turkish residents of the region.

Barzani has indicated that he would like to break his ties to Saddam's government.

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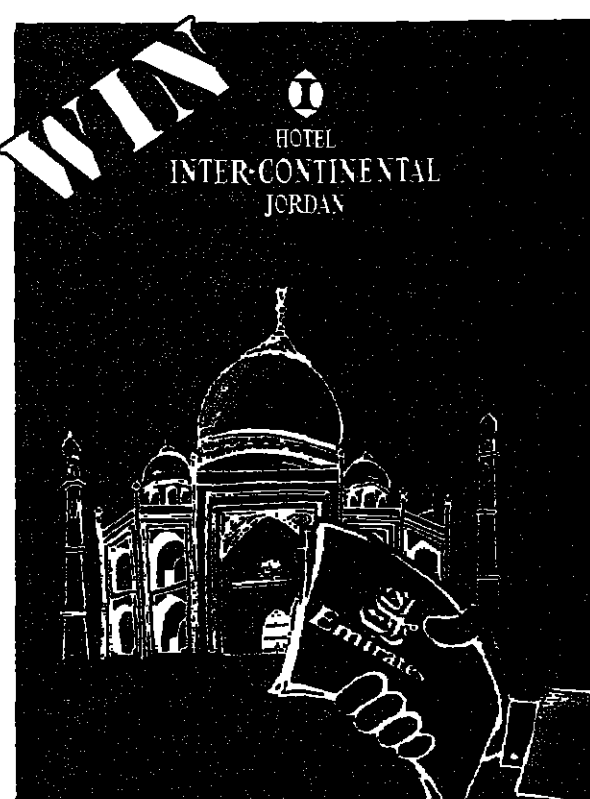
## International tourism day to be held in Um Qais

IRBID—The Irbid Tourism Office (ITO) is to hold a festival in Um Qais town, 120km to the north of Amman, between 26 and 27 September in celebration of the International Tourism Day, director of the ITO said Monday.

He added that the program of the festival, which will take place in the ruins of ancient Gadara, includes a tourism fair, traditional costumes show, folkloric and

other songs performed by Jordanian and Iraqi troupes and poetry recitals by Jordanian and Iraqi poets.

The historical play of "Gadara Rises Anew" will also be performed in this festival. "Sports and voluntary works have a part in this festival. A race for athletes from the Irbid area is also scheduled," the director added.



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"Shame on you, Saddam!"

## Our Say...

### Second Intifada?

ISRAELI PRIME Minister Benjamin Netanyahu could not have picked a least appropriate time to give the go-ahead to continue excavation work underneath the Al Haram Al Sharif area. Angry Palestinian reaction to this audacious move is understandable to say the least. Ever since the Likud leader came to power, he has been giving one wrong signal after the other to the Palestinians and the world at large.

This latest attempt to challenge the feelings of both Muslims and Christians, especially the Arab inhabitants of occupied East Jerusalem, unveils the true agenda of the Israeli government and confirms without doubt that the Middle East process has lost its way and could be lost altogether unless something is done.

The Palestinian protest, which was met by force by the Israeli army, has so far resulted in the death of at least four people and many injuries. Mr Netanyahu cannot claim that his government is committed to peace with the Palestinians while his acts show otherwise.

The latest flagrant challenge coincided with Mr Netanyahu's visit to a number of European cities. The aim of that visit was to assure concerned European leaders that his government was committed to its agreements with the Palestinians. But whether Mr Netanyahu expected Palestinian reaction or not, the wave of violence has weakened his position both abroad and at home. For many of his supporters and critics, Mr Netanyahu has fallen into a trap of his own making.

On the other hand, Palestinian leader Mr Yasser Arafat, who feels humiliated and angered by Israel's decision to expand settlement activities in the West Bank, the delay in redeploying Israeli troops in the Hebron area and mounting attempts to change the Arab character of Jerusalem, is justified in calling for a popular backlash against such measures. A second Palestinian Intifada becomes less of a free choice everyday and more of a pressing reality.

The Israelis, who voted in Mr Netanyahu by an insignificant margin, should unite now and express their indignation at the way their prime minister is gambling away the dividends of peace that his predecessors had earned for their country.

Today, Israel is feeling a creeping international isolation because of the stalemate in the peace process, there is a growing tension with Syria which could easily turn into a full-fledged war and most of all it is antagonizing the very people it claims to want to live in peace with. The policies of the Israeli government are leaving little options for the Palestinians and a very small room for maneuverability for its own negotiators.

The peace process was launched to end Arab-Israeli hostility on the basis of land-for-peace. The previous Israeli government was moving in earnest to expand the peace agreements it signed to include Syria and Lebanon. It was honoring its agreements with the Palestinians. Jerusalem was to be discussed in the final phase of negotiations. But today the peace process is a thing of the past—no thanks to sweet-talking Mr Netanyahu who is pushing this region back into the abyss. ■

## Middle East perspectives

# Arafat's dilemma is one of perception

By Ray Hanania

THERE IS an old saying in public relations: you cannot advocate the reality, unless you live the perception.

Much like a desert Oasis, success and failure sometimes have nothing to do with reality.

Such is the problems that Palestinian President Yasser Arafat faces as he struggles to lead his people to statehood, for the first time in the history of the human race.

Arafat is learning that the ball game of politics and negotiations are played by a hand-book drafted, edited and translated by the Americans.

Israel plays by those rules, as do most other nations who have overcome obstacles to establish themselves as world leaders and powers.

But not the Arab World, which continues to place its dreams against the failed track record of its recent history.

The Arab World stumbled out of an era of European colonialism seeking freedom and independence, only to discover that its own leaders had replaced the colonialists with a colonialism of their own.

Such are the Arab World parents of the Palestinian people, autocrats, dictators, strongmen, and monarchs.

From this unlikely recipe,

Arafat is expected to weave a sweater of freedom, liberty and national independence?

Arafat cannot achieve his goals by playing politics the old-fashion Arab way.

There can be no Palestinian state to emerge from the dismal trail of empty rhetoric and hyperbole that characterizes his speeches, policies and the lessons he learned.

Instead, Arafat has to learn to break away from Middle East failure, and focus on the successful techniques that resulted in the founding of Israel, and other Western nations.

Most of all, Arafat and the so-called Palestinian National Authority, desperately needs a lesson in public relations.

Arafat has failed by not properly defining his goal of "an independent Palestinian State."

The world still views this objective as the natural birth of the Palestinian revolution, which is remembered more for the acts of terrorism and bravado than it is for its justification.

And Arafat confronts Israel on issues that he should win, he finds himself losing the battle because Israel better understands the issues of public media manipulation, and they can better "frame" their message to the world masses.

For example, the latest fight between Arafat and Netanyahu, while intensely complex to negotiators, is at best a public relations battle: Netanyahu is turning away from the peace process while Arafat begs for it hat in hand.

Instead of portraying himself as the champion of freedom, Arafat appears as a weak leader, and thereby gives the public room to become skeptical of his charges that Netanyahu is anti-peace.

A strong public relations

campaign would cast Netanyahu as an anti-peace, extremist leader who could plunge the Middle East and the world into the final Armageddon.

Natanyahu sings the public relations chorus better than Arafat for several reasons: he's a seasoned ball player who understands that the media view begins and ends in a New York studio; he has greater flexibility of travel; and he strikes a more appealing image with his chiseled profile and smooth English.

Arafat, on the other hand, is still wearing those military khakis causing many Americans to wonder if he even has them washed.

Arafat is not living his role. In order to be a leader, you must act like a leader.

And, just as important, you must also live like a leader.

His poverty image as a "revolutionary of the people" may go over well in the Gaza Strip, but it so injures his cause elsewhere in the world you have to wonder if he and his aides even understand the significance of "image."

In politics, at the local or the international level, you have to "look" like a winner to "be" a winner.

Perception is reality. Arafat can change himself and his cause. It's not difficult.

But he has to make a real effort to push aside many of his high profile advisers, and replace them with people who understand what needs to be done. ■

Ray Hanania is an award winning journalist and author. His book, *I'm Glad I Look Like a Terrorist: Growing Up Arab in America* will be published this month. His columns are archived at <http://www.usg.org>



F.L.O. Leader YASSIR ARAFAT

# Western dominance and the geopolitics of Islam

By Richard Falk

HUNTINGTON'S "CLASH of civilizations" is geopolitically blind, failing to note in relational terms, the defining political and structural links between Islam and the West during the course of the century, and previously. Without delving into the substantive complexity of each dimension of this inter-civilizational relationship, the main instances are as follows: European medieval crusades; European colonial rule and encroachment; Western dependence for prosperity on cheap, abundant supplies of oil; the establishment and security of Israel in the second spiritual heartland of Islam, entered in Jerusalem.

There are two closely related aspects of this structure: geographically, Islam has mainly meant for the West, the Arab Middle East, but not exclusively, as the encounters with Iran suggest; politically, the assertion of nationalism in Islamic countries has been consistently perceived in this period as threatening to Western interests whether it has taken a secular (Mossadegh, Nasser) or religious form.

Upholding Western interests has required an array of ideological rationalizations: to contain Soviet expansion, to contain "Islamic fundamentalism," to resist terrorism. As a result, the encounter between the West and Islam has been expressed on the Western side in normative, value-laden, and one-sided language expressive of a supposed project to promote secularism in the Arab world, an encouragement of political moderation, constitutionalism, democracy, and human rights. As relations with several Gulf countries demonstrate, however, religious governance poses no intrinsic obstacle to positive political relations with the West if the ruling elites obediently serve Western interests.

It is against this background that the "world order" has been politically constructed by the Euro-American West to restrict drastically, if not exclude, meaningful Islamic participation in global governance structures. For instance, the permanent membership of the Security Council includes no Islamic country although the faith of Islam is strongly held by more than one billion persons and is predominant in some 45 member countries. In contrast, four of five permanent members are adherents of Christian civilization, a disproportion that corresponds neither with demography, geography, economic performance, or even influence.

In other words, if evaluated on a civilizational basis the United Nations is dangerously imbalanced in relation to the circumstances and beliefs of the peoples of the world. Of course, it is this imbalance that has allowed the Christian West to operationalize for five decades the geopolitics of dominance in relation to Islamic concerns, most spectacularly with respect to the role of Israel—its long refusal to implement Palestinian claims as endorsed by the United Nations and its covert acquisition of nuclear weapons without provoking a storm of interventionary opposition.

Let it be understood, also, that Western

dominance has been facilitated, even financed, by the passivity, co-optation, and collaboration of critical Islamic centers of potential resistance, especially Western-oriented governments and a lack of practical solidarity among Islamic governments when civilizational values are menaced. What Islamic solidarity has been fashioned over the years is often of an empty rhetorical variety, which when repeatedly not followed up, can be safely ignored.

Those various factors that constitute a geopolitical pattern have been evident in relation to the unfolding ordeal of Bosnia in the 1990s. The West was content to allow the conflict to simmer, to remain "impartial" in the presence of massive ethnic cleansing of Muslim areas, and to accept the Serb destruction of a plural, tolerant Sarajevo, and Islam has neither exhibited the will nor the competence to produce a significant response.

To the extent diplomacy was contrived to ensure the containment of the conflict, the one European with the most at stake was virtually excluded from the diverse channels of diplomacy: namely, Turkey, Croatia had Germany, Serbia had Russia, but Bosnia, whose government maintained its multi-religious and ethnically plural orientation despite the most extreme provocations, was without a sponsor on the diplomatic stage even though it was the most victimized country in the aftermath of Yugoslav disintegration. When "a contact group" was formed to coordinate European diplomacy, the United States and Russia were included along with Germany, France, and the United Kingdom, but not Turkey. Turkey had been strongly supported, even subsidized, during the Cold War as a critical member of the NATO alliance, but in Bosnia where Turkey's interests are geographic, historic, ethnic, religious, civ-

ilizational, and strategic, it is excluded from significant participation, and has appeared to acquiesce in this result. The effect is to ratify the Euro-American geopolitics of Islamic exclusion.

Not only is this fact of geopolitics worth commenting upon when contemplating the future of inter-civilizational relations, but also the silence of the Islamic world cries out for explanation. It is accepted in global media and academic circles as "natural" to exclude Turkey even in a NATO setting, despite the obvious presence of more direct Turkish strategic interests than those of any other NATO member. Undoubtedly, Turkey's eagerness to be admitted to the European Union encourages its acceptance of geopolitics-as-usual. If inter-civilizational relations are to avoid the clash and dominance scenarios, then a geopolitics of inclusion must be envisioned and championed as an alternative to the present world order with its post-colonial residues of Euro-American dominance. A critical reflection on the fate of Bosnia could be a useful starting-point linking the ordeal of a particular instance with the more veiled oppressiveness of a general structure. The geopolitical "sacrifice" of Sarajevo, the embodiment of Balkan cosmopolitanism, represents the most callous disregard of humane values in Europe since the 1930s when these same European powers closed their borders to Jews fleeing Nazi persecution. ■

Richard Falk is a Professor of International Law at the Princeton University. He is a distinguished political thinker and social analyst who has written a great deal on issues related to US foreign policy.

## Middle East Beat

by Khairi Janbek

### Equal worth

IT IS the same issues: bravado and pseudo-nationalism. Our brethren intellectuals in the Arab world, only talk about relations with the fellow Muslims world.

Pragmatically, if an Arab country can guarantee a deal of some sort with other partners from other areas, then it should do it alone. We have learned at school about common territory, religion, custom, and language as folkloric manifestations and insufficient to provide basis for unity. Why shouldn't an Arab country do what it thinks is right without interference from others?

At this historical state of Arab existence, we should count ourselves lucky that dissent to Arab unity is still within the confines of apprehension. The serious problem in this reasoning will remain in the fact that we are unable to transform our demands of equal chances and opportunities, from the developed world, into that of equal worth.

It is not a chance that we need from the civilized world to respect our contribution. The sad part is that the pattern set for the world to enter the next millennium is clear for the Arabs.

For a start, the US will soon be the center of operations for its own region, composed of Canada and the countries of the Organization of American States, leaving the whole world for its own devices, save for the protection of strategic energy supplies which can be protected by remote command, or even by one or two proxies as the occasion may arise. America has neither the capability to remain the policeman of the world, nor the provider of comfort to the dwindling dictatorships. The EU is very clearly oppressed with its own problems.

However, there is a consensus among Europeans that individual problems can be solved through the collective European perspective. Fortress Europe is on the rise, and with it the wall of exclusivity and homogeneity of an abstract European culture. It is only fair to talk about culture, for the economic foundations and political institutions were laid down some time ago, at an era when most of our region was composed of colonies. South East Asia, in addition to Australia, is also a viable and strong political and economic block. A commonwealth is emerging very strongly in that part of the globe.

Our attempts of unity have either failed because they were created out of ideological spite, or because our mentality did not evolve beyond the legacy of the lines drawn in the desert sands. It is not poverty that should unite us, neither need, nor a common enemy, but definitely, sense of our global worth and self-respect.

Realism dictates that we should realize facts on the ground. Israel is part of the region, and Turkey and Iran are major actors in the history of the Middle East. Our outlook must be linked to our objective existence. The mechanisms that we should create to partake in the civilization dialogue in all its dimensions must be built on concrete objectives rather than wishful assumptions. Our common problems can be solved through a collective Arab effort, and the institutions for that, must be built very quickly. ■

The Star  
652380

## Gunmen kill 21 at Sunni mosque in Pakistan

By John-Thor Dahlburg

LA Times-Washington Post News Service

NEW DELHI—Rivalry between two Muslim sects in Pakistan erupted again in murderous violence last Monday as masked gunmen opened fire on worshippers at a Sunni mosque, slaying 21 people, many of them boys from a religious school, as they prayed.

The blood bath in Multan, a city in the eastern province of Punjab, came one day after the killing of a leader of the minority Shiite sect in a town 60 miles to the south.

Infuriated by the attack on their sanctuary, Sunnis in Multan came out on the streets to stone Shiite neighborhoods, shout anti-Shiite slogans and block roads with burning tires, witnesses said.

The back-to-back incidents highlighted the increasingly hostile relations between militants of the two rival branches of Islam in a country founded nearly a half-century ago so the subcontinent's Muslims would have a state of their own. Elsewhere in Pakistan, in the town of Larkana, ancestral home of the family of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, police battled followers of her estranged brother and political rival Murtaza, who was slain by police in Karachi last Friday in still

murky circumstances.

Some commentators predicted Murtaza Bhutto's death would further erode the mandate of his sister, whose leadership of Pakistan since 1993 has seen a sharp downturn in the economy and increasing lawlessness in much of the country.

Witnesses said early morning prayers had just started at Multan's Masjid Al Khair when the armed men invaded the mosque and showered the worshippers with submachine-gun fire. The gunmen, said to number four, managed to escape.

All of the victims were Sunnis, the majority denomination in Pakistan. According to hospital officials, many of the slain worshippers were students, ages 10 to 16, from the religious school next to the mosque. At least 33 people were wounded in the fusillade, many of them seriously, and the death toll was expected to rise.

The matting where the Sunnis had been praying was soaked with blood. The dead, their faces covered with cloths, were wheeled away in handcarts. Friends and survivors sobbed at the sight.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility, but authorities said they believed the attack was in retaliation for the murder of the Shiite leader in Bawalpur the previous day. ■

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Jordan's political, economic and cultural weekly

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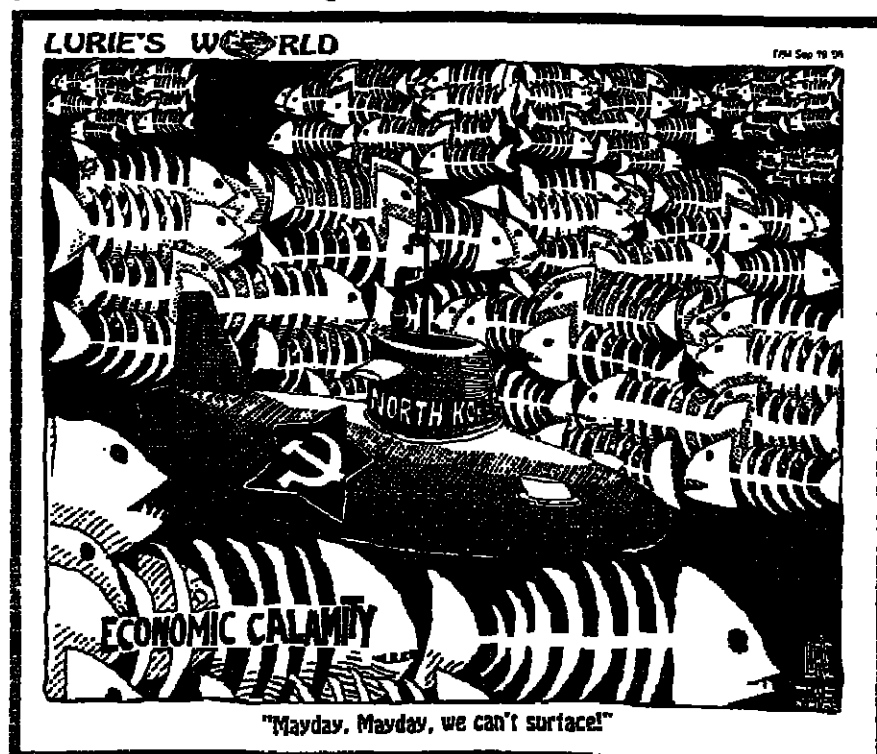
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"Mayday, Mayday, we can't surfact!"



*Industrial sector records high growth average*

# Foodstuff exports estimated at JD 100 million

■ Sales of the Arab Electrical Industries reached JD 574.4000 in the first half of this year. It made a net profit of JD 105.000 dinars. Its assets were JD 3.65 million. The company's budget is 7.4 million.

(200)		
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# Coca-Cola takes lead in Russian market

While acknowledging that "opportunities and tomorrow." ■

## Media conference to be held in Dubai

In all its previous conferences held in Dubai, PARC's objectives were to discuss recent developments in Marketing, Media and Mass Communication Technologies. Today it is realized that for more than one generation, futurists and other leading edge pundits across many fields have predicted the

**\$15 million  
loan granted  
to Jordan  
Cement  
Factories**

JCFC produces four million tons of cement at its factories in Fubels and Al Rashdia.

## New security law will activate AFM performance

Under the new law the name Amman Financial Market would become the "Jordan Stock Exchange." It would be completely owned by the private sector and managed by financial services companies rather than banking cooperation. It will have its separate system. The new law is targeted at "isolating" the stock exchange from governmental control.

### ***Inauguration of American Business Center in Amman***

The American Business Center is located at the United States Embassy in Abdoun. The ABC may be contacted at Tel. 820101. Fax: 820146 or at Commercial @ Nets. Com. JO. ■

## Business Chronicle

*By Mohammad Adawiya*

### *Inequitable subcontracting*

AS WE approach the two year anniversary of the Jordan-Israel peace treaty (October 1994), it is perhaps clearer than ever that the "match made in heaven" is not living up to all that was promised.

Arguably, there is no more important single example of the problems associated with doing business with the Israelis, for local companies, than that of engaging in subcontracting agreements. Local businessmen, especially in the textiles industry, often complain of the inequitable terms of such arrangements in this sector.

The peace treaty has, among other things, revealed the relative unattractiveness of doing business in Jordan for Israeli textile manufacturers. At the heart of this competitive advantage is the cost of labor. Jordan holds a quite distinct advantage over Israeli and even Palestinian labor costs. Producing a pair of jeans, for example, costs approximately \$9 in the Palestinian Territories. By contrast, a pair of jeans produced in Jordan only costs \$6.50 cents. Such cost savings have made Israeli manufacturers extremely eager to enter into subcontracting arrangements with Jordanian firms.

Local industry, however, does not view the relationship with quite the same enthusiasm. Citing low profitability as well as a degrading employer-employee relationship, Jordanian textile companies are deciding to pass on the opportunity of entering into such agreements. Moreover, by entering into a subcontracting agreement, local firms miss the ever important reward of having their names placed on the final garment. Such a relationship would only allow Israeli firms to get larger and more dominant, while Jordanian firms remain small and relatively obscure...the very thing the treaty was supposed to prevent: ■



**Abu Hassan**

## Al Halavach

duce their own raw materials and encourage productivity. Jordanian exports are being promoted because of their high quality standards, especially the industrial products, Abu Hassan added.

On another hand, a study was recently organized at the Jordanian Export Develop-

Corporation (JEDCC), under the title "Evaluation of Food-stuff industries in Jordan."

The study was prepared by JEDCC in co-operation with the UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) and the Jordan Agricultural Marketing

Dr Mohammed Al Halayqah, director of JEDCC, said that this study covered more

than 11 foodstuff products, among them frozen meat, fresh meat, canned chicken and vegetables, fresh juice, vegetable oil and biscuits.

The study aims at the familiarization of the current situation of the foodstuff industries sector in Jordan. It also seeks to promote such products in what it calls "non-conventional markets" in addition to those of North Africa, Western and Eastern

In this respect, the commercial legislations in these markets concerning rules and import procedures in these countries are also given.

Among the major problems facing the sector of the food industry, Dr Al Hadyqah said, includes the standard

## MARKET WATCH

21-24 September

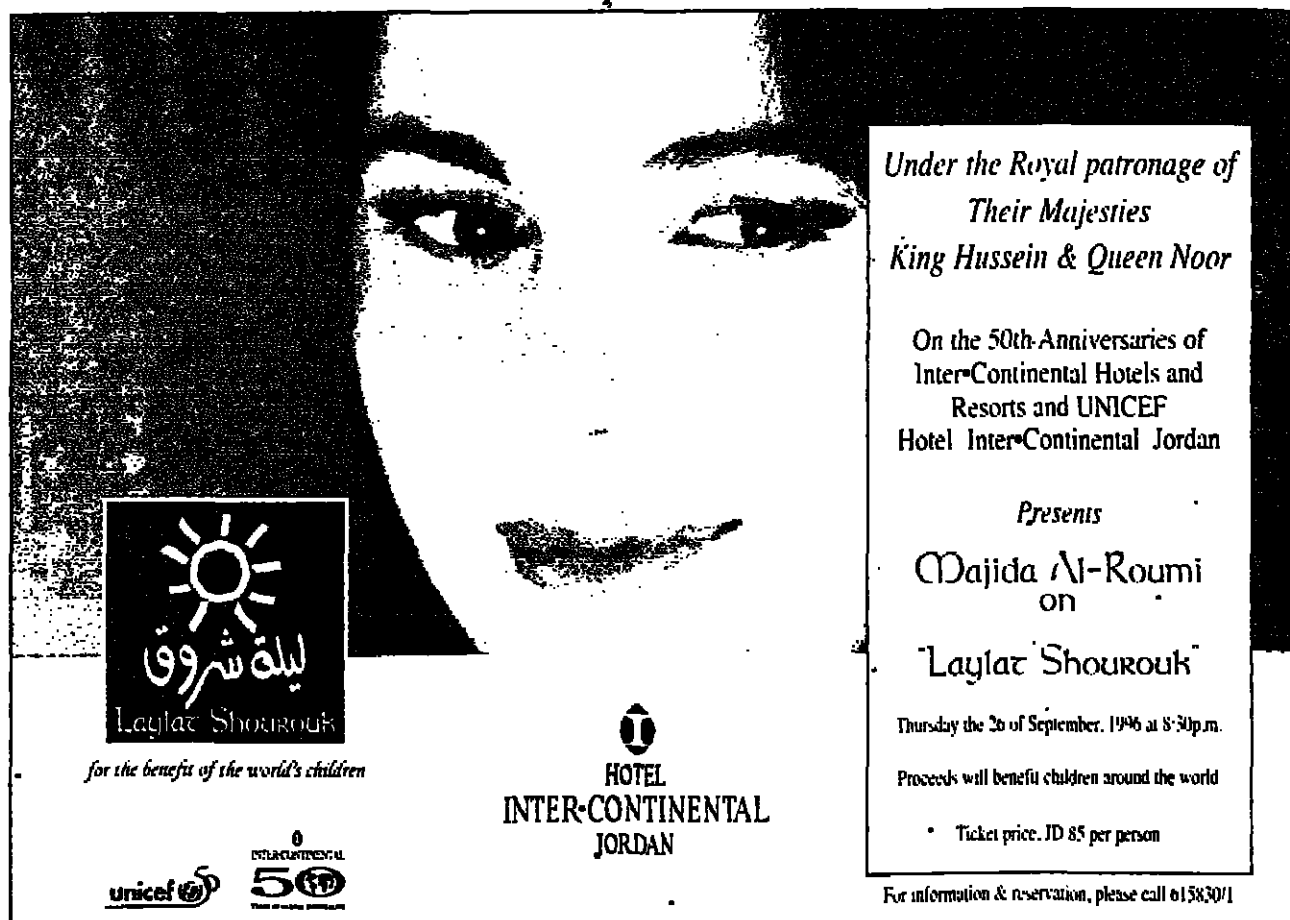
**Highest and lowest performing stocks in the Amman Financial Market**

SATURDAY		SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY	
	%		%		%		%
↑ Amman Investment Bank	5.25	↑ Amman Investment Bank	5.88	↑ Amman Investment Bank	5.56	↑ Nayzak Dies and Moulds	5.88
↑ Jordan Hinch Mineral	5.11	↑ Arab Electrical Industries	5.88	↑ Middle East Bank	5.31	↑ International Televis	5.13
↑ Universal Chem. Industries	4.83	↑ National Plastic Industry	5.26	↑ National Plastic Industry	5.00	↑ Arab Financial Investment	4.92
↓ National Industries	4.35	↓ International Trade	3.51	↓ International Trade	3.64	↓ Amman Investment Bank	5.26
↓ The Public Mining	4.33	↓ Jordan Tobacco & Cigarettes	2.74	↓ The Industrial Commercial	3.13	↓ Aladdin Industries	4.93
↓ Arab Medical Appliances	4.17	↓ Al Zarga for Education	2.61	↓ Jordan Sulpho Chemicals	2.50	↓ Middle East Complex	4.76

<b>General Price Pointer</b>	149,250	149,460	149,580	149,490
<b>Trade Volume</b>	1162741	1237615	1876822	1473483
<b>Stock Volume</b>	1160725	1080513	1527217	1608042

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# Palestine Post



Ayman Yaghmour and his son stand in the ruins of their house that was demolished by the Israeli army in Jerusalem.

## Palestinian academic calls for geological centers

Dr. Mohammad Ghazal, a professor at the Faculty of Engineering at Al Najah University, called for establishing geological centers. He said that these centers can either work independently or as affiliates to university departments. The purpose would be to conduct valuable studies in the Palestinian territories.

The professor said that the geological issue is increasingly becoming very important because of its direct connection to the land. He added that geology has much to do with the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

Due to the recent political changes and the existence of the Palestine National Authority (PNA), having such centers can defend the Palestinian right to their own land. The job of the centers will be to counter other non-Palestinian researches which aim to strengthen the Israeli existence in the region. Moreover, what is important is that these centers will work to reevaluate the research made by Jewish geologists.

## Projects at \$6.9 million in Gaza

Dr. Khalid Nijm, the chairman of projects department at PECJAR, the Palestinian Agency for Development, said that there are 11 infrastructural projects that are under way in the Palestinian territories. Costing \$6.9 million, these projects, which are mainly related to the sewage systems, are being executed in the governorates of the Gaza Strip of Beit Lahia, Jabalia, Beit Hanoun, Gaza and Rafah. The projects, which will take between two and eight months to complete, are being executed by Palestinian contractors and a Danish contracting company. Besides these, talks are going on to build nine schools and a clinic in Gaza Strip. The finance of these projects will be provided by the World Bank, Dr. Khaled added.

## Israel imports Jordanian fruits and vegetables

The Israeli Ministry of Agriculture recently allowed Israeli companies to import Jordanian fruits and vegetables that are exempted from taxes. This is in line with the Jordanian-Israeli agricultural agreement. The deadline for submitting applications is 8 October. Commodities that are allowed to be imported include tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers, apples and grapes. The Jordanian exporters are also allowed to import Israeli products such as mango and avocado on the condition that they export other items to Israel.

## Unstable Israeli conditions lead to decline in tourists

According to a report published by the Israeli daily Yedioth Ahronot, the number of tourists to Israel is decreasing. This is attributed to unstable political developments.

One of the travel operators in Israel said that tourism in Jerusalem went down by a third, and hotels up till June were empty.

Four US groups have cancelled their trips to Israel for the next month claiming that "there is no stability in Israel, and we are afraid of visiting this area," a touristic agent said.

The number of tourists who visited Israel until last June dropped by 23 percent compared with the same period last year. Because of losses many employees in travel agencies have become jobless. Also Al Al, the Israeli airline is suffering from high losses.

## New branches for Palestine Bank

The Palestine Bank is planning to open new branches at the Palestinian territories and in Jordan, according to its chairman Mr. Hashim Al Shawwa.

"We had recently called the Jordanian government and the governor of the Jordan Central Bank to allow us to open our branch in Jordan, but so far we received no answer," Al Shawwa said. The Palestine Bank granted loans and housing facilities at more than \$50 million. In addition, it paid taxes of \$3.4 million to the PNA, Al Shawwa added.

# Yeltsin's surgery may be postponed as too risky

By Richard Boudreaux  
LA Times-Washington Post  
News Service

MOSCOW—In a sign that President Boris N. Yeltsin's heart surgery may be postponed or even canceled, the doctor chosen for the job said that damage caused by the Russian leader's newly disclosed heart attack this summer might make the operation too risky or of little help.

The assessment by Dr. Renat Akchurin—coupled with a pessimistic report by the Kremlin's chief physician—indicates that the doctors are resisting pressure from the 65-year-old Yeltsin and his political aides to hurry a coronary bypass operation.

Until last Friday, Yeltsin's doctors had said little about his condition after the president's 5 September announcement that he would undergo surgery at the end of the month. Their preliminary judgments are based on electrocardiograms and other tests Yeltsin had over the last week.

A decision on the surgery is expected Wednesday or Thursday at a meeting of the doctors. They have invited the American heart specialist Dr. Michael DeBakey to contribute his advice.

Their decision will affect the political direction of this nuclear-armed nation, which is struggling to establish a democracy but lacks clear rules of presidential succession.

If Yeltsin were judged unfit for surgery, it is unlikely he would recover the vigor he needs to reassert full control over the government. A succession struggle involving his prime minister, his security chief, his Communist foe and others—under way since he fell ill three months ago—would only intensify.

Yeltsin and some advisers, particularly his chief of staff, Anatoly B. Chubais, favor prompt surgery, hoping to restore his health and authority. The president has said his other option, "to work passively," is unacceptable.

On Saturday, Chubais told a meeting of Russia's Democratic Choice party: "Those politicians who believe that it is time to take up starting positions in a presidential campaign will very soon realize that they have jumped the gun."

But Akchurin, who trained with DeBakey and is chief of cardiovascular surgery at Moscow's Cardiology Research Center, is building a subtle case in public against rushing to surgery.

He infuriated the Kremlin by disclosing in an interview with ABC News that Yeltsin had suffered a heart attack this summer—some time between the first round of presidential balloting 16 June and his reelection 3 July. In brief remarks Saturday, the 50-year-old surgeon insisted, "We saw scars on the electrocardiogram"—evidence, he said, of fresh damage to Yeltsin's heart tissue.

Although he did not treat Yeltsin's summer illness, Akchurin said the damage he detected last week could have resulted only from a recent heart attack. He said the damage "might be" a complication that would make Yeltsin's surgery risky or of little help.

Akchurin did not elaborate on his risk assessment. But other specialists in Russia say they prefer to delay any heart surgery for six months after a heart attack to give the damaged tissue a chance to heal.

Yeltsin was hospitalized twice last year for a constricted blood flow to the heart, and it

is believed—but never confirmed by any doctor—that at least one of those episodes resulted in a heart attack.

In addition, Dr. Sergei Mironov, the Kremlin's chief physician, has raised concerns that Yeltsin's other organs may be too unhealthy to withstand a heart operation.

As apparent complications prolong his pre-surgery stay in the Kremlin hospital, Yeltsin's media service keeps insisting that nothing is wrong. Last week it released a silent film of a relaxed-looking president chatting and gesturing in a hospital meeting with Prime Minister Viktor S. Chernomyrdin.

Doctors kept Yeltsin in the hospital this weekend.

"The Russian doctors are doing damage control," said Dr. Manuel Cerqueira, associate chief of cardiology at Georgetown University Medical Center in Washington. "They obviously don't want anyone to think this is a slam-dunk operation and take the blame if he doesn't come out of it. And they're trying to get some outside opinions to support what they're saying, which is smart on their part."

While most Russian voters suspected this summer that something was wrong with Yeltsin's heart, Akchurin's dis-

closure of his attack caused a political storm.

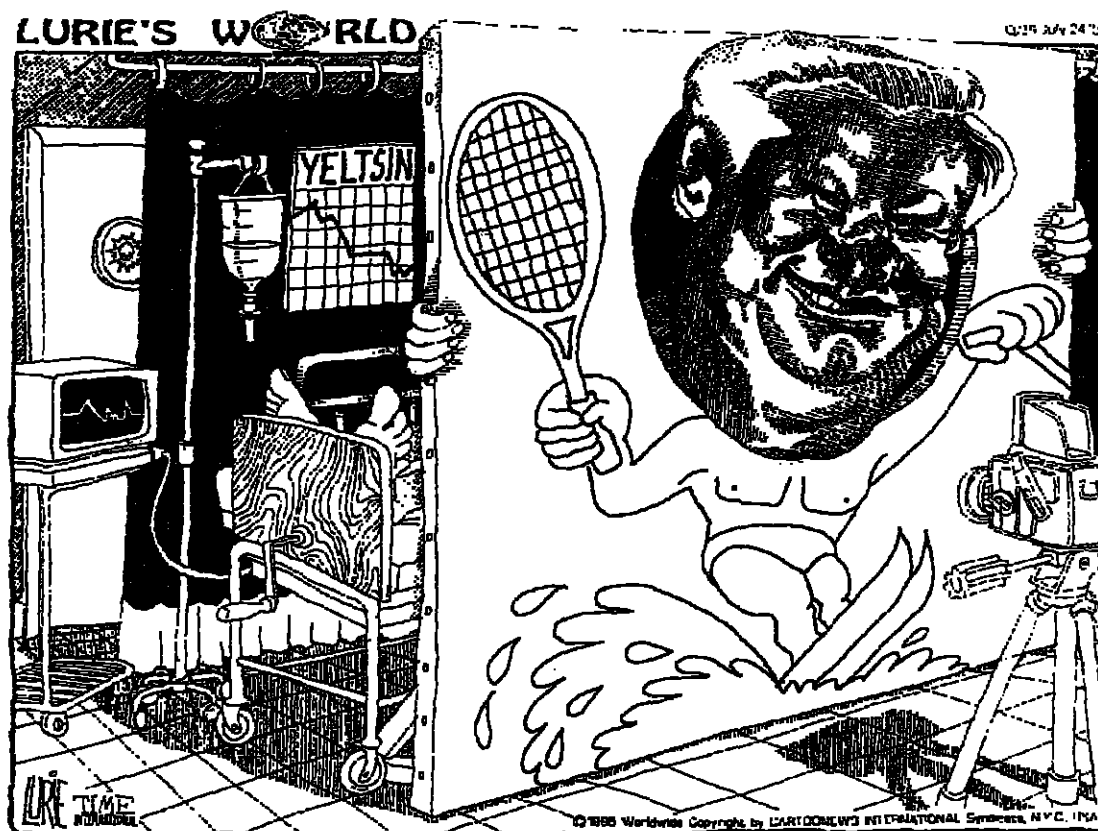
Noting that the government had covered up the attack in the days before the runoff election between Yeltsin and their leader, the Communist Party claimed again that Yeltsin is unfit to govern and demanded a new election.

Under the constitution, the prime minister takes over and a new election must be held within three months after a president dies or becomes incapacitated. But nothing in the charter spells out who would decide on the president's fitness to rule.

Last week, presidential spokesman Sergei V. Yastrzhembsky announced that Yeltsin would sign a decree handing Chernomyrdin full but temporary presidential powers before undergoing surgery. The spokesman said Yeltsin would sign another decree taking his powers back as soon as he recovers.

Meanwhile, a row is brewing in Moscow. The nationalist and communist deputies are very angry saying that Yeltsin should have disclosed the state of his health long ago and are calling for his immediate resignation.

The president of the Duma (Lower House), Mr. Gennady Seleznev called on Yeltsin to resign if he does not undergo heart surgery soon. "In this case Yeltsin should himself ask to leave his duty," he said. "The situation in Russia is not conducive to a light work schedule." But observers argue that Yeltsin has drawn up a constitution "to fit his own size," he can go on ruling even for a few hours a day, delegating responsibility to very close advisers. He can't be made to leave but his departure must be voluntary.



# Facing world's pollution in the North

By Howard Schneider  
LA Times-Washington Post  
News Service

OTTAWA—Each summer in the fields of the American South, pesticide residue heats under the sun, rises and drifts north, swirling toward the top of the world.

There, a molecular trickle of toxaphene, chlordane and other compounds condenses, falls to Earth and works through the food chain from fish, to seals and whales, to the Inuit and other Arctic-dwelling people who rely on the sea for most of their diet.

When they found PCBs in polar bears and mercury in the umbilical cords of Inuit newborns, it was, officials from the world's most northern countries said here this week, time to look seriously at protecting the Arctic from the effects of industrialization thousands of miles away.

The "ice curtain" clearly had fallen.

"The Arctic is more than myth and dreams.... The fish and whales carry scary amounts of contaminants," Canadian Environment Minister Sergio Marchi told representatives of the eight "circumpolar" nations gathered here to begin a joint initiative on Arctic issues. "The

Arctic is an early warning system for our planet.... There is a link from the rice fields to the ice fields."

The need to understand those connections, and the potential threat to Arctic people if they are ignored, prompted representatives of Canada, the United States, Russia, Finland, Norway, Sweden, Iceland and Denmark to assemble here last Thursday and sign an agreement creating the Arctic Council. The group will have no formal power over its member nations. And while cooperative research on some environmental issues has been conducted for years under a separate pact, there is no definite sense among members of the new council about how the information will be used.

Scientifically, for example, health officials say they are hesitant to tell the Inuit and other native people not to eat seal and whale meat, because the other benefits of their fish-based diet still seem to outweigh the risk of ingesting Arctic species whose fat cells accumulate reservoirs of pollutants.

Politically, the issues become even more delicate, involving



Saving the north pole from ecological pollution is becoming an urgent concern for many states

questions of how industry or consumers in North America, or throughout Europe, should react to pollution drifting from their cars and factories into a still largely uninhabited part of the Earth. The group will not even meet again until 1998, after completion of environmental studies.

But by uniting the countries' efforts on issues of economic development and cultural pro-

tection as well as on environmental concerns, officials say they hope the new international panel will give some political punch to an area that, while harsh and isolated, is home to some of the world's most ancient cultures.

The group will not, for example, be able to tell the United States whether to develop its most northern Alaskan oil reserves, or counsel Russia

about how aggressively to mine for minerals in Siberia. But it may recommend methods for minimizing the effect of such projects and spreading the work and benefits among native communities.

"There is an image of this barren land that is very pristine and hardly anybody lives there, but in many ways it is not that," said Mary Simon, Canada's ambassador for circumpolar affairs. "You are talking about a much more severe climate, but it does not stop people from being concerned about the environment, about their livelihoods, their cultural identity, their language."

The area is massive, more than 2.3 million square miles in Canada's portion alone, which the country defines generally as any place north of 60 degrees latitude. Other countries set the boundary farther north, but the council's work will still encompass most of Alaska, much of Iceland and Greenland (a self-governing possession of Denmark), the northernmost parts of Sweden, Finland and Norway, and a swath of Russia stretching around the globe to the Chukotka Sea.

It is home to perhaps only 10 million people. Some live in cities like Murmansk in Russia. Others, in the hundreds of thousands, are clustered in

small villages, settlements where the hunting and cultural customs date back thousands of years, and where reliable television service arrived only recently with satellite dishes.

Groups representing the Arctic's native people regard the council's creation as something of a political breakthrough for them.

Although the idea of an Arctic organization has been around for years, it was only with the end of the Cold War that it has become politically feasible. Security concerns have lessened in a region where the US and Russia nearly touch at the Bering Strait. Likewise, the breakup of the Soviet Union has made Russia more willing to discuss issues like atomic or mining-related pollution of its northern lands.

For the native peoples, there is more complete representation than what they say is typical of international bodies. Three main groups—the Inuit Circumpolar Conference, the Saami Council for the Nordic areas and an organization representing northern Russians—will have permanent, though non-voting seats on the council.

By Edna Yaghi

TODAY WAS Hani's birthday. He was six years old. There would be no cake and no one to sing "Happy birthday" for the small orphan who lived with his aunt somewhere in a refugee camp in Gaza Strip, the most crowded place on earth. Hani's father died in prison for torture while under interrogation when the child was two years old. He could barely remember that black day when his mother cried for hours and pulled the curtains in their tiny house, shutting out the rays of the bright sun. Almost a year later, his mother was killed too when she joined in a demonstration against the Occupation of Palestinian land. No one knew what to do with the boy. As far as the neighbors could figure out, Hani had no grandparents and the closest relative was his mother's sister. Word was sent to the aunt and she came a few days later to pick up the child who had been staying with neighbors since his mother's death.

The aunt had four children of her own. Her husband was a fugitive. The first thing she said to Hani was three at the time was, "That's all I need. Another mouth to feed!"

For the next three years of his life, Hani lived with his aunt and cousins. Her house was too full of people and it was covered with a tin roof that made the small house seem like an oven in the Summer and a refrigerator in the winter.

It would have been better if only there was a little love for the boy to help ease the pain and loneliness that he felt. But Aunt was too busy, too poor and had too many problems to bother with Hani. Most of the time he played in the street with his cousins and ate whenever there was food and slept whenever it was time to sleep. Sometimes his cousins hit him because they knew he had no one to speak out for him. He could not complain to Aunt because she would not listen. He could only go in a corner and cry and wonder why there was so little love and comfort in his life.

Hani was younger than his cousins. They usually told him what to do and he obeyed. If he didn't, he knew he would be beaten. His cousins knew in turn that one would take Hani's side or stand up for him. So he was constantly being told, "go and do this for me Hani!" or "Do as I tell you Hani!"

He learned to be quick or else he would be hit with hard punches and kicks. He never spoke much. He had no one to say anything to. He was so sensitive to life but nothing was sensitive to his feelings. He would delight in small childhood things, such as a blooming

flower or try to catch the rays of the morning sun or see where the sparrows' nest was or try to interpret the coo of the lonely dove pigeons that made their nest in cracks of buildings.

But today was his birthday. Nonetheless, there seemed nothing special about this day. Hani felt no different than usual nor was he aware that on this day six years ago, he was born. Aunt was not planning to make a cake for him. She had a hard enough time getting food on the table as it was. So right after breakfast, the birthday boy and his cousins went to play in the street. The day was yet young and there was a sweet coolness about the early morning air.

"Hani," one of his cousins yelled from a distance, "go and get some stones for us so we can play!"

Hani did as he was told. He got as many stones as he could manage and was ordered to go and get some more. He complied. While his cousins were shouting and laughing, an Israeli jeep drove down the dusty street. Hani's cousins began to throw stones. The birthday boy just stood motionless and watched. He was hesitant but did not know why. "Come on Hani, what's wrong? Throw

stones or you'll see what will happen to you!"

The jeep was like a cannon ball. Hani stood paralyzed. He could see the mask of hate on the faces of the Israeli soldiers. The cannon ball drew closer and closer. His cousins ran and hid. Hani remained frozen to the spot where he was standing. He had one stone still in his hand but his hand was next to his side. When the jeep pulled to a stop and the soldiers jumped out, Hani started to run. He was too late. One of the soldiers grabbed him and waited there until he was sure the boy would be all right. Hani woke up on the examination table in the emergency room. He stared up at the bright lights through his swollen and by now black and blue eyes. It seemed everything hurt him. Everyone had hurt him. He didn't know how to cry. He had to lock himself away from this cruel world.

A doctor, with a kind face and soothing voice said, "Well, hello little fellow! Looks like you've had some rough handling. But you are a brave lad and in no time we'll have you all cleaned up. What's your name?"

Hani wanted to speak but could find no words. Today was his birthday. This was

his gift. He couldn't understand why he was being punished. What had he done to deserve such treatment?

At last, after his wounds were cleaned and dressed, the birthday boy was placed in a clean bed in a cool room near a window. He could hear wild pigeons cooing outside his window, but he knew the coos were not for him. He smelled the scent of roses, but he knew the scent was not meant for him. He saw the sun shining brightly, but he knew it didn't shine on him.

He became the talk of the hospital, how he was brought in by a shepherd and how his back was badly beaten and how his whole body was terribly bruised. Everyone could only say, "Who would do such a terrible thing to such a small boy?"

Today became tomorrow. No longer Hani's birthday. Weeks passed. Hani remained in the hospital because no one came to claim the boy and the boy either could not or would not talk. It was decided that perhaps, he had been beaten for throwing stones, but Hani's doctor told social workers, "I don't know how to treat him. I've tried everything but it is as if either the boy is retarded or just doesn't care if he lives or not."

Hani is not retarded. He is a very bright young child. What he needs is understanding and love and a therapist to bring back his speech and a sense of order into his life or he will remain forever scared and a silent lamb.





# The Boutros Ghali we didn't know

By Samir W. Raafat

I KNEW the man simply as *ya doktor* which is how we addressed the incumbent Sec-Gen of the United Nations in the days when he was professor of international law in my Freshman year at Cairo University. This was in the late '60s. Dr Boutros Ghali (born November 14, 1922) was supposedly acquainting us on the perplexities of "Political Science". I underscore the "supposed" because as far as I can recall, his no-show record surpassed that of his most truant disciple. We were ostensibly told that *Al doktor* had other responsibilities and was obliged to delegate his teaching assignments to the "mo'ed" or assistant-lecturer. Whatever the reasons for his absence I never doubted their worthiness. Faculty remunerations in those days were very modest and Dr Ghali had many other professional interests. Yet, when we saw his Fiat coupe parked adjacent to the college building, we knew we could look forward to an absorbing two-hour lecture.

Behind his back we had several nicknames for him. Those who had come from English language schools referred to him as "Peter Precious", an obvious play on his name (Boutros being the Arabic version for Peter, and precious, which is the English word for Ghali). My colleagues from the French language schools including those from the Jesuits and the Lycee, where Professor Ghali had studied as a schoolboy, referred to him simply as "Bo-bo".

On the other hand, my late father, who was 16 years the Sec-Gen's senior, had taught Ghali's generation law at Cairo University. He knew Ghali personally as "Dr Boutros" which is how the Sec-Gen's contemporaries addressed him even when he became minister of state for foreign affairs in November 1977. And whenever he—Ghali—signed his scholarly articles in *Al-Sayassa al-Dawla*, that very worthwhile magazine he helped produce, he did so as Dr Boutros Ghali. Seclusion was the use of the double-barreled appellation which became so fashionable after Boutros 'Boutros-Ghali' made his appearance at the United Nations in 1991.

**Boutros Ghali I (1846-1910)**

The first Boutros Ghali was the UN Sec-Gen's grandfather... not his father or uncle as so many mistakenly believe. His father was called Youssef, a self-effaced member of the landed gentry who, as tradition warrants, married a member of his own Coptic background, Sophie Sfaharim. From her he had three sons: Boutros, Michel and Raouf. Ironically, they would marry (re-married in the case of Boutros and Raouf) whose first wives were local Christians) outside their denomination, for their present respective wives are Jewish (Lea Nadler), Muslim (Wafika al-Shaiti) and Lutheran (Brit from Norway).

In keeping with tradition, Youssef and Sophie's eldest son was named after his eminent paternal grandfather who had departed so unexpectedly in 1910. Boutros Ghali Pasha was written up in Egypt's modern history as the only Coptic prime minister of this country (unless we include Youssef Wahba Pasha who headed a purported council of ministers for six months during the British

Protectorate in 1919/20). He was also one of three Egyptian premiers assassinated this century, the others being Ahmed Maher Pasha and Mahmoud Fahmi Al-Nokrashi Pasha, slain in 1945 and 1948 respectively.

In the days when Boutros Ghali Pasha was minister of foreign affairs and later head of government (1908-1910), the British were the de facto rulers of Egypt. The khedive, technically a vassal of the sultan in Turkey, was, in reality, a pawn of British imperialism. His government was effective only within the very limited scope ascribed to it by the British consul-general. An wholly independent Egyptian armed force, for all intents and purposes, ceased to exist. Instead, there was a British army of occupation, in place since the quelling of Ahmed Orabi's nationalist uprising of 1882.

With several subsequent nationalist movements coming into force "Egypt for the Egyptians" became the rallying cry. The new rationale was that the prime minister should belong to the majority faith. In a way, the fate of Boutros Ghali was pre-ordained even before he was assassinated on February 20, 1910 by Ibrahim Nassif Al Wardani (1885-1910), a young pharmacologist graduate freshly returned from the UK. The cries heard in the street following this sinister event sums up the general mood: "Al Wardani and Al Nosrani." The reference to Al Nosrani or "the Nazarene" had more to do with the late

pasha's pro-British leanings than his being a Copt. Nevertheless, the imposition of a Coptic prime minister had had an ill boding and adverse effect on the predominantly Muslim nation whose educated elite was clamoring for an independent Egypt. It was all right that the country had thrice been handled by a Christian Armenian Prime Minister—Nuhur Nubarian—in the previous decades but things had drastically changed since.

The ill-fated first Boutros Ghali came from Upper Egypt where his father oversaw the Delta estates of Khedive Ismail's brother. His formative school years were spent in a college founded by the Patriarch Cyril IV (1854-61). Later, in his public life, Ghali sided with the pro-English elements of Egyptian society. Having served for so long under the Muslim Prime Minister Moustafa Fahmy Pasha, the man the British considered "too English, not sufficiently Egyptian" the stigma had rubbed off on his Coptic collaborator. The partiality of Boutros Ghali Pasha for Egypt's British rulers and his disposition to please them was best brought out during the June 1906 Dinshwaya Trial which sentenced four Egyptians to the gallows for having beaten up British officers who had accidentally shot the wife of a village elder while pigeon-shooting. Ghali, who was interim minister of justice at the time had in effect signed his own death warrant when he concurred the ignominious verdicts. Also taken against him by the nationalists was his close identification with the Anglo-Egyptian Condominium Agreement with the Sudan in 1899 and his recent suggestion of a 40 year concession renewal of the Suez Canal. The end result was the assassination of the nominee of the Christian occupation in 1910.

After WW1 nationalist agitation was ready to explode. The leading Wafd Party, which was the declared enemy of religious fanaticism, was formed from amongst the leading Coptic and Muslim notables of the country. A Ghali from the second generation, which, unlike the first, had become ever so Francophile, was a pillar of the new anti-British party. Wassif Ghali Pasha (son of the first Boutros and uncle of the second) held the foreign affairs portfolio in the Wafd governments of 1924, 1928, 1930 and 1937. It was in his unassuming riverside home in Giza, that some of the Wafd's historic meetings took place. And it is there that the new Wafd leader, Mustafa al-Nahas Pasha, was upheld by the party elders following the death of Saad Zaghloul Pasha, Egypt's canonized and popular leader of the 1920s.

**Boutros Ghali II**

Four decades would pass before another Ghali reached the helm of the Egyptian Foreign Office. But it was more because of the sudden turn of events than due to seniority or the like which led Dr Boutros Ghali, the grandson of his namesake to follow in his uncle's and grandfather's footsteps when he walked into the ministry of foreign affairs on November 17, 1977. Egypt's chief of diplomacy, Ismail Fahmy, had just resigned in protest of Sadat's Jerusalem initiative. Within hours, Fahmy was joined in his self-imposed political exile by his faithful No.2 the

then-secretary of state for foreign affairs, Mohammed Mahmoud Riad. The two first slots at foreign affairs were unexpectedly vacant. Ghali was designated for the No.2 opening.

Since these were no longer the days of the Wafd but rather a continuum of the military-led regime that came to power in 1952, the No.1 slot at foreign affairs could no longer be allocated to a Copt, especially now that Egypt was headed as the leader of the Arab and Islamic Worlds. Hence, on December 25, 1977, the position of minister for foreign affairs was given to Ibrahim Kamel, a Sadat crony from the old days. When Kamel resigned in September 1978 in the middle of the protracted Camp David Negotiations, the No.1 position remained vacant until February 17, 1979, when the portfolio was given by presidential decree to the then-prime minister, Dr Moustafa Khalil. Dr Ghali would continue to serve under Khalil and his three successors: General Kamal Hassan Ali from 1980-84; Dr Esmat Abdel Megid from 1984 until he moved to the Arab League in March 1991; and Amr Moussa who was several years Ghali's junior in both years and practice. With the arrival of the capable young senior minister, the days of Dr Ghali at foreign affairs were numbered. Efforts for his obtaining the UN's chief position went into full gear.

**Il Faut Plaire Aux Souverains**

It was as minister without portfolio that Boutros Ghali willingly accompanied Anwar Sadat on the latter's historic trip to Jerusalem.

Jerusalem was special to Dr Ghali not only because it was the disputed capital of Israel and Palestine and as such one of the most talked about ancient holy cities, or because it had amongst its religious institutions an important Coptic presence, but it was also the city of birth of his commiserating mother-in-law, Pauline Sipora Rachel Goldenhauim.

In March 1923, at the young age of 17, Pauline had wed in Alexandria Chaim Maurice Hirsch-Nadler who would become the city's leading candy manufacturer. Whereas the Nadlers were Jews from Romania, who emigrated to Egypt early this century, Mordechai Pinhas, Mrs Boutros Ghali's maternal grandfather, was born in Safed, Palestine in 1881.

After partaking in Sadat's cabal to Jerusalem, Dr Ghali would gradually make it to the forefront of the national and international political scene. Forever cautious, he stuck to his favorite maxim "il faut plaire aux souverains." In English, "one must occasionally—stoop to conquer." (Could this have been an inherited trait from his grandfather?). In this respect, I distinctly remember how, the few times he showed up during my first year in college, Dr Ghali's lectures on political systems hardly ever touched upon Egypt's. The learned professor of international law went to great pains never to take sides or criticize the regime even though in those days everyone seemed to be doing little else, especially after Egypt's humiliating June 1967 military defeat. University professors—including the communists, the Nasserists and the socialists—were coming out, openly criticizing or defending the regime citing example after example, from

benevolent dictatorships to demagoguery, or, alternately, singing the praise of the anti-American stands of Guevara, Castro and Ho Chi Min. These were the days of Vietnam and the Cold War.

That same year, college campuses erupted all over Cairo as thousands of demonstrating students marched angrily to the rubber stamp parliament near Lazoghly Square. While arousing debates took place under the parliamentary roundtable, in the university's lecture hall Dr Ghali stuck firmly to his academic notes never uttering anything that could be taken against him, now or at some invisible point in the future. "Peter Precious" had become "Peter Cautious".

Even then, his *il faut plaire aux souverains* disposition was palpable. Was this due to some minority complex? No, we would occasionally ask ourselves. Either out of ignorance or simply because we were in our Freshman year, we totally ignored the fact that we were the privileged observers of a modern adaptation of Talleyrandism. Talleyrand, being the great French diplomat—and self-perceived womanizer—who had so adroitly maneuvered his way through the Napoleonic Directorate, Napoleonic and Bourbon years that followed the sanguinary French Revolution... whereby the sagacious diplomat always came back on top.

**Over the top**

When he made it to the top position at the UN, Ghali became a household word and a prime time news denizen. This is not to say that he was heretofore an unknown somebody. Quite the contrary, Ghali was a popular figure in the African continent as well as the countries of the Francophony. His frequent-flying habits had taken him to the darkest corners of Africa, always by way of Paris. Paradoxically, when you checked some of the lesser pre-1992 "Who's Who" editions there are no entries for Boutros Ghali. Was it because these reference books could not fit in all the members of the

world's governments, from Ulan Bator to Bogota? Or was it because up to 1992 Ghali was headed as just another Third World senior public servant? Someone close to the Sec-Gen has another theory. To get some of those editions you either have to be a big international celebrity or alternately, you had to fill in the self-addressed enclosed form and return it with a check. And, according to the same source, the affluent Sec-Gen has a very strong dislike for writing personal checks, whatever the amount.

Today, Dr Ghali is facing trying times. Having come to the UN on a squeaky straw vote and on the back of the late President Mitterand's unflinching lobbying, the *plaire aux souverains* maxim has run out on him. Somehow, Ghali failed to endear himself to Mademoiselle Albright, a post Cold War sovereign in her own right. Neither has he scored too high with her bosses in Washington. Yet, one would think that this intelligent, multi-lingual, professional, academic-diplomat who, as an African-Arab-Christian-secular husband of the granddaughter of Osjuden rabbis from Eastern Europe and Palestine, has all the qualifications necessary for the job of Sec-Gen of the United Nations, particularly where it counts most: *philosophic* Washington. What, then, went wrong?!

Based on precedent votings we know that nothing is ever final when it comes to choosing a new UN chief. The last word on who will be the next Sec-Gen has yet to be heard. And with the Ghali's propensity to make spectacular comebacks a la Prince de Talleyrand, for all we know, the next Sec-Gen could be... Boutros 'Boutros-Ghali'.

Samir W. Raafat is a prominent Egyptian journalist. The Egyptian Mail refused to publish this article on the basis it may harm Boutros Ghali's re-election campaign.



U.N. Secretary General BOUTROS BOUTROS GHALI

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## A view from America

# Perot deserves to debate

By Carrie Nelle Moye

Star US Correspondent

IT IS difficult to like Ross Perot. He is whiny, snappy, dogmatic, authoritarian, and otherwise pesky. If he were a dog, he would be a Chihuahua (my apologies to those of you who are owners and lovers of this breed). Looks, of course, do not really matter but let's face it, a pleasing appearance does help.

And again, in my opinion, he is something of a cross between the dog to which I have referred and Prince Charles. (In the States, however, that might be a decided advantage; we appear to love royalty and Perot may be the closest thing we have to that, if one considers genetics a fair determinant of lineage, and one then observes Perot's auditory appendages in conjunction with those of the Prince.)

But none of the above should have an iota of a bearing on whether or not Ross Perot should be allowed to participate in any upcoming debates thus far limited to Clinton and Dole. On September 17, the "Non-partisan Debate Committee" ruled Perot did not have a chance of being elected President in November and thus concluded he should not be a party to the debates. As this is being written, Perot is appealing the decision.

It is not as though Ross Perot were an ordinary man who decided at the

last minute to jump into the race. In 1992, the US public appeared to be more and more discontent with present day politics. If ever in modern times there were a reasonable chance for a third party candi-

date to win an election, it was then. Perot appealed not just to the malcontents but to a very large number of voters who felt he was more than just an "in lieu of" candidate but rather one who had many posi-

tive factors.

Perot is a self-made man so obviously, he has been a worker. His fiscal success points to his capability to make money. From appearances he has been more honest than the stereotypical politician. And most certainly no one can question his patriotism and loyalty to the United States, considering his personal physical and financial commitment to our men and women in uniform in situations quite literally around the globe.

Unfortunately, for those in 1992 who supported Perot, and no doubt for those who did not, the first time he learned that he could not control all elements of a political fight and the playing became quite rough, he turned tail and ran with some preposterous story about the wedding of his daughter being ruined. If Truman were perched somewhere and privy to this silly affair, no doubt he shook his head in dismay—or perhaps let loose with some of his favorite rhetoric.

The child-like behavior of Perot was a great disservice to this country, whether one was for him or agin'-him. He had been a viable force in opening a door for candidates who did not fit the stereotypical mold of Republican or Democrat. Oh certainly, we have the Green Party, the Libertarian Party and various and sundry others, but no

candidate had made a dent on the national scale as did Ross Perot. Like him or not, he had some clever, solid ideas—some of which the two major parties have quasi-absorbed.

In 1996 once again we are in a situation where many disenfranchised want to check "none of the above" when going into the voting booth. Once again it appeared to have been an excellent time for sane persons with solid political backing and outstanding experience in any of a number of fields to have tried to form a third party. Sam Nunn and Bill Bradley immediately come to mind. Both—and others—were urged but chose for reasons known only to them not to run.

Had they chosen otherwise, it would have had to have been very early on and would have taken non-stop campaigning, financed by committed backers. But no one stepped into this void.

Far too late into the picture stepped Perot. We all know that nothing is impossible, but if there ever were a sure bet on something, it would be that Perot does not have a chance whatsoever to win this Novem-

ber. Even had he declared much earlier, he would have had only the slightest chance. He proved his mettle—or rather disproved it—in 1992. But he did accomplish something quite significant: he opened the door for a third party. He qualified for federal matching funds. He completed the requisite requirements to be considered a viable candidate.

Saying one does not have a chance to win the election is decidedly subjective. Yet, it would be impossible to allow all persons who can manage to get their names before the headlines to participate in the debates. So the line must be drawn somewhere, and when dealing with a mixture of facts and emotions, it is difficult indeed to draw that line. There are times upon which we must rely on facts, tempered with common sense. This is one of those times. Does Perot have a chance to win? No. Has he proven to qualify to be included in the debates? Yes. Let him have his say. In the long run, it will be good for this country. ■



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## DICTATE PROGRESS

Continued from page 1

adoption of information technology.

Most Western experts believe freedom in individual life and unfettered access to information are keys to success in understanding, absorbing and using information technology. "I am surprised South Korea ranks so high in the world in terms of information technology, whereas its society is still restricted and less developed," said a foreign expert residing in Seoul.

South Korea ranked the first among 34 developing countries in a recent comparative analysis on information adaptation and utilization, which the World Times conducted using various figures presented by major world organizations.

Industry analysts in Seoul said there was no problem with the result of the index. According to one, South Korea's long history of military-backed dictatorship, allied to exaggerated media coverage of anti-government demonstrations and violent labor disturbances, led many foreigners to overlook the possibility that information

technology could be flourishing.

"Yes, the long dictatorship restricted individual freedom. But I think nothing in the world has only a single face," said the analyst. While the long dictatorship suppressed people's demand for democratization and freedom, those in power needed visible economic results to offset these restrictions. To achieve this, their regime gave birth to a unique economic structure featuring the chaebol.

A chaebol is a family-owned business conglomerate. Its member firms holding stakes in its "sister firms" and guaranteeing payment when those sister firms get loans from banks. Chaebol member firms also benefit from insider trading between themselves, thus securing stable sources of demand or supply for raw and intermediary materials and for finished products.

This structure, in which chaebol were provided with government protection from competition, has enabled the nation's heavy machinery and electronics industries to record some of the

most dramatic growth rates in the world. This rapid growth in manufacturing capabilities was one of many factors helping South Korea take the world's leading position in the information technology utilization, industry analysts said.

Along with the unique economic structure, analysts also cited high educational standards, military hostility with communist North Korea, and South Korea's high population density as factors that boosted information technology utilization.

South Korea has one of the highest rates of literacy and secondary school enrollment in the world, both of which were partly due to the long tradition of venerating men of letters. Even today, several high-school graduates commit suicide every year after failing in college entrance examinations that are conducted almost uniformly across the country during a very short period.

"Long dictatorship has resulted in a very uniform society. This ironically

supports high educational standards," said one social science professor in a Seoul-based university.

More than four decades of hostility with North Korea has also contributed to the development of information technology in South Korea because heavily fortified army units located along the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) need advanced communications capabilities to hone their readiness against possible military incursions, analysts said.

The DMZ is a buffer zone dividing the two Koreas, which have been technically at war since the end of the 1950-53 conflict that involved China and the US. An estimated 1.5 million heavily armed troops from the two sides are confronting each other along the DMZ.

High population density also helped South Korea boost usage of information facilities because it is relatively easier to install and maintain communications infrastructure in a territory with high population density than doing so in a huge territory with low population density. □

WALTER YOONDOO IS A FREELANCE WRITER RESIDING IN SOUTH KOREA.

First place has its limits, says Chinese graduate student

## Writing a report you can't print

By Jin Chen

THE FIRST PLACE IN THIS ROUND OF final exams is Chen Jin, the second is ....

I was pleased when I heard the teacher announce the ranking of 53 students in the class, and immediately envisaged my mother's most likely response — she would ask my dad to continue his work, then take half a day off from her work so as to take part in the subsequent parent-teacher meeting because we all knew that the whole meeting would be about the ranking. It was generally understood, although nobody explicitly stated in the school, that the student's evaluation was based solely on his/her academic performance. I did not realize the weakness of this system until my first boss asked me, "Put some paper into the printer and print out your report," and I couldn't do it.

Just as academic test scores should not be used to predict somebody's actual ability to succeed in a professional career, a country should not be evaluated solely on the

growth rate of its gross domestic product (GDP), but on a wide range of indicators.

In the same way exclusively pursuing academic excellence caused the lopsided development of my education, pursuing GDP growth alone will cause unbalanced allocation of limited human and natural resources

An academic ranking based on the scores in six subjects can be improved at the cost of disengaging in music, drawing or athletic activities, which did not contribute to the ranking; GDP growth rate can be speeded up at the expense of the productive capacity that we pass on to future generations, including clean air and water, or by sacrificing of human rights.

The question then is how to give a holistic measure of the wealth of nations while keeping a simple methodology for the sake of effective communication. Among more than one hundred variables considered, we selected 63 variables, which apply to relatively distinct aspects of the wealth of the nation. We decided to rank each one of them and then weigh them equally.

Yet, nothing is black and white. If a student does not have the pressure of pursuing academic excellence and reads a novel instead of a textbook, is it good for him or bad for him? The an-

swer is, of course, subject to numerous factors—what kind novel it is, how useful it is in terms of obtaining some sort of education and to what extent he has mastered the text material. Likewise, when ranking the variables, we had to deal with whether a higher government budget surplus was better, whether a higher savings rate is better, whether low unemployment is better, whether less government regulation is best, and so on.

The answers to many of these questions relate to which part of the business cycle—the peak or the trough—the economy is in, which is to some extent subject to people's perception. The ranking of these variables therefore has to assume that the public's perception carries great weight regardless of the specific economic or social conditions. This assumption certainly does not mean that the ranking system is right. It simply enables uniform comparison across countries.

Is it fair to impose a standard to all countries, which is a mosaic of indicators and represents a certain value system? No, it is not.

However, it is definitely a step forward from using a single indicator such as GDP growth, pursuit of which may very well cause an unbalanced economy.

Should my mom have felt proud of me in the parent-teacher meeting? Yes, it was an achievement.

Should this achievement have been obtained at the cost of my own interests in music and other extra-curriculum activities? No. But the question still remains: where is the optimal point at which my most limited resource—time—is used most effectively?

That depends on which index I am being measured against. □

JIN CHEN IS A MASTERS' DEGREE CANDIDATE IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION AT BOSTON COLLEGE.

Seoul, South Korea, home to some of the most advanced information technology in the world



A passion for freedom is rewarded

## History's tide turns for Poles

By Daniel Passent

POLAND BRINGS TO mind passion and turbulence, the ravages of war, gallant cavalry charges and Solidarity defying communism—not the kind of history associated with high rankings on an index of social health.

History, however, is being kind to Poland. Behind the fierce rhetoric of numerous political arguments, most Poles are united in a belief that they are living through one of the best periods in the past 1,000 years. Energized by the end of communism, their society is making dramatic progress without the usual fear that the territorial imperatives of strong neighbors will bring everything crashing down.

This improvement has been cloaked by controversy and bitter political debate on subjects ranging from privatization to the future of the bankrupt Gdansk shipyard, but it is a sense of historic opportunity rather than despair that is fueling these debates. With the glaring exception of income distribution, most of Poland's social institutions are flourishing.

From a geopolitical standpoint, Poland is secure for the first time in centuries. Germany, one of her traditional foes, is united, democratic and has renounced any territorial claims. Indeed, Germany is now Poland's largest trading partner. The other great foe, Russia, is in deep crisis, saddled with immense domestic problems and the remains of an empire that continues to fall apart.

Over the past 10 years the situation along Poland's borders has changed dramatically. Until 1989, Poland had only three neighbors: Germany, Russia and Czechoslovakia. Today, that list now reads: Germany, Russia, the Ukraine, Lithuania, the Czech Republic, Belarus and the Slovak Republic. In Polish eyes, quantity has given way to quality and variety when it comes to its neighbors.

Domestically, the demise of communism opened the door to democracy and two of its foundations, freedom of assembly and freedom of speech. There are now over 200 political parties of all stripes, from the reformed communist Democratic Left Alliance to the right-wing Confederation of the Independent Poland.

Freedom of speech is now guaranteed and widely enjoyed. There are numerous newspapers and magazines, again spanning the political spectrum. At one end is the left-wing weekly *NIE*, published by the notorious former communist government spokesman Jerzy Urban, at the other the right-wing *Gazeta Polska* which specializes in anti-communist rhetoric and xenophobia. In addition, there are privately owned radio stations competing with public and Catholic church-owned networks.

As it stands, the only people who have to worry about their political free-

doms are former communist dignitaries and those connected to the old security apparatus. Efforts are underway to pass legislation—known as the lustration laws—that limit the rights of former security officials to hold high public office such as a governorship of cabinet position. Currently there are an estimated 200 people holding high public office who were connected to the communist secret police, and some high-ranking communist party officials are serving the current government—Prime Minister Włodzisław Cimoszewicz and Minister of Education Jerzy Wiatr are both former party members.

This is one of the most sensitive issues currently facing Polish society; even Lech Walesa, the hero of Solidarity, has been placed on a list of former security collaborators by his right-wing enemies. While lustration is arguably justified on moral and political grounds, many Poles are worried about the legal implications of singling out a small category of citizens.

However, lack of freedom is not the biggest worry for most Poles. Lack of money is. While in general the Polish economy is booming—"Poland is a new star on the horizon," according to the *Economist*—not everyone is participating equally in the boom. Unemployment stands at 15 percent, and some experts predict it will stay at that level until at least 2000. There are 500,000 Poles who are considered officially homeless.

In contrast, the country's "new rich" are building Beverly Hills-type mansions, importing expensive cars and planes, vacationing in exotic places and

establishing foundations. Shops that were empty 10 years ago now offer everything, including luxuries imported directly from Paris and Milan.

So far, this contrast has not shown up in the official statistics or created any serious social tension. This is due in part to the fact that the income structure inherited from the communists is still a factor, and also to the fact that the new rich are still scarce enough to be statistically insignificant. In a recent survey, a cross-section of Poles asked to rank themselves on an income scale of 1 to 7 gave an average score of 3.8, suggesting that most believe their country is still fairly egalitarian.

Another trend that may cause social problems in the future is immigration. According to the Ministry of Interior's Tomasz Ruba Rozowski, immigration from East Europe, the former Soviet Union and Asia is growing. About 3,000 illegal immigrants a year are deported, and the Warsaw police incurred criticism earlier this year when they evicted 100 Romanian gypsies, deported them and burnt down the "village" they had erected on the banks of the Vistula River.

If Poland can deal with these problems while they are still marginal, and solve the problem of unemployment, then it will maintain the high ranking it has achieved on such indexes of social health as the World Times Wealth of Nations Index. After all, the country has already done a remarkable job of burying its gray, grim communist past. □

DANIEL PASSENT, A FORMER EDITOR OF *The World Paper*, IS AN EDITOR AND COLUMNIST FOR THE WARSAW-BASED NEWS WEEKLY *Polityka*.

This improvement has been cloaked by controversy and bitter political debate on subjects ranging from privatization to the future of the bankrupt Gdansk shipyard

## SOURCES FOR TRIANGLE INDEX

World Economic Outlook, IMF  
Human Development Report, UNDP  
World Development Report, World Bank  
Trends in Developing Economies, World Bank  
Global Economic Prospects and the Developing Countries, World Bank  
World Investment Report, UNCTAD  
Quarterly Review of Emerging Stock Markets, IFC  
Averting the Old Age Crisis, World Bank  
Measuring Political Freedom, Magomed Desai  
US Department of Agriculture  
CIA country reports  
World Resources  
Freedom House  
Heritage Foundation  
Kenneth Leventhal, Earnst & Young Real Estate Group  
Transparency International  
UN High Commission for Refugees  
Daring Underdogs World Resources Atlas  
The Universal Almanac  
The World Almanac and Book of Facts  
IDC Worldwide Black Book  
World Times, internal research

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## The Star's GUY TV PE

Programs on JTV  
from 28 September - 4 October

### ENGLISH PROGRAMS

#### SATURDAY

- 2:00—Teletext
- 3:00—Holy Koran
- 3:05—Moomin
- 3:30—UEFA Football Match
- 5:00—French Programs
- 7:30—News Headlines
- 7:35—Baker's field
- 8:00—The Album Show
- 8:45—Miami Vice
- 9:30—Prism
- 10:00—News at Ten
- 10:25—The Bold And the Beautiful

11:15—Feature Film: *The Ultimate Revenge*, starring: Lou Phillips & Melinda Dellon

#### SUNDAY

- 2:00—Teletext
- 3:00—Holy Koran
- 3:05—Fievels American Tails
- 3:30—Just The Job
- 3:45—Mac & Muttley
- 4:00—Italian Soccer
- 5:00—French Programs
- 7:30—News Headlines
- 7:35—Cinema, Cinema
- 8:00—American Chart Show
- 8:45—Fresh Prince of Bel Air
- 9:10—Blackie's Magic
- 10:00—News at Ten
- 10:25—dazzle (Best Seller)
- 12:00—Short Story Cinema

#### MONDAY

- 2:00—Teletext

### 3:00—Holy Koran

- 3:05—Adventures On Rainbow Pond
- 3:30—UEFA Football Match
- 5:00—French Programs
- 7:30—News Headlines
- 7:35—The Hypnotic World of Paul McKenna
- 8:00—Deep Probe Expeditions (Doc)
- 9:10—The Lazarus Man
- 10:00—News at Ten
- 10:25—The Bold & The Beautiful
- 11:10—Bodies Of Evidence

#### TUESDAY

- 2:00—Teletext
- 3:00—Holy Koran
- 3:05—Iris-The Happy Professor
- 3:25—Captain Planet
- 3:45—All
- 4:10—Road to Avonlea
- 5:00—French Programs
- 7:30—News Headlines
- 7:35—Blossom
- 8:00—Man Alive (Doc)
- 8:30—Encounter
- 8:45—Varieties
- 9:10—Star Trek
- 10:00—News at Ten
- 10:25—Mission Impossible
- 11:15—China Beach
- 12:00—My Two Wives

#### WEDNESDAY

- 2:00—Teletext
- 3:00—Holy Koran



Madonna in American Chart Show, on Sunday at 8pm

- 3:05—Iris
- 3:20—The Flintstones
- 3:45—The Adventurers
- 4:10—Kelly
- 4:30—Earth Revealed
- 5:00—French Programs
- 7:30—News Headlines
- 7:35—The Four Seasons
- 8:00—Super Stars of Action
- 8:30—Chancer
- 9:10—Hunter
- 10:00—News at Ten
- 10:25—The Bold & The Beautiful
- 11:15—Hart To Hart

#### THURSDAY

- 3:00—Holy Koran
- 3:05—Jonny Quest
- 3:30—NBA Basketball
- 4:30—Take Your Pick
- 5:00—French Programs

#### FRIDAY

- 3:00—Holy Koran
- 3:05—Twinkle
- 3:30—Name Your Adventure
- 4:15—Crystal Maze
- 5:00—French Programs
- 7:30—News Headlines
- 7:35—Growing Pains
- 8:00—Fench Varieties
- 8:45—Secret Weapons
- 9:10—The Wanderer

10:00—News at Ten  
10:25—Classic Movie: *Adventures of Don Juan*, starring: Errol Flynn and Viveca Lindfors

### PROGRAMMES EN FRANCAIS SAMEDI

- 5:00—Dessins animés
- 5:15—Emission jeunesse
- La vie devant moi
- 5:30—Jeux
- Les bons génies
- 6:00—Série
- Police des polices
- 7:00—Le journal
- 7:15—Faut pas rêver
- USA

### DIMANCHE

- 5:00—Dessins animés
- 5:15—Emission jeunesse
- La vie devant moi
- 5:30—Jeux
- Qui est qui
- 6:00—Magazine
- La marche du siècle
- 9,000,000 de bénévoles, 1ère partie
- 7:00—Le journal
- 7:15—Magazine
- Sports et musique

### LUNDI

- 5:00—Dessins animés
- 5:15—Emission jeunesse
- La vie devant moi
- 5:30—Jeux
- Les bons génies
- 6:00—Magazine
- La marche du siècle
- 9,000,000 de bénévoles, 2ème partie
- 7:00—Le journal
- 7:15—Magazine
- Cinq sur cinq

### MARDI

- 5:00—Dessins animés
- 5:15—Emission jeunesse
- La vie devant moi
- 5:30—Jeux

Programs are subject to change by JTV

## Celebs...



Joan Collins dressed up to the nines to celebrate the launch of her autobiography titled *Second Act at The Black Lodge* in London last week.

## Video releases

"BEFORE AND AFTER" (Hollywood, \$100.71): Meryl Streep and Liam Neeson star in director Barbet Schroeder's ("Reversal of Fortune") drama as a New England couple who find themselves on opposite sides when their teenage son (Edward Furlong, of "Terminator 2") is accused of murdering his girlfriend. Predictably, extreme stress results for the entire family; Alfred Molina also is featured. \*\* (PG-13: AS, P, V)

"A THIN LINE BETWEEN LOVE & HATE" (New Line, \$102.65): Martin Lawrence moonlighted from his Fox comedy series "Martin" to serve as executive producer, co-writer, director and star of this parody of "Fatal Attraction." He plays a ladies' man who definitely attracts the wrong lady when a woman he jilted (Lynn Whitfield) seeks revenge; singer Bobby Brown and veteran performer Della Reese co-star. \* (R: AS, P, V)

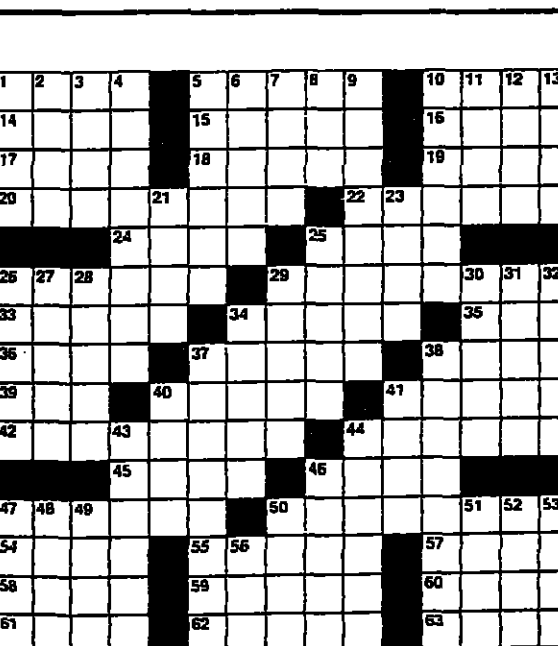
COMING SOON: "FARGO" (PolyGram, Oct. 1): Film-making siblings Joel and Ethan Coen's offbeat story concerns an extortion attempt; Frances McDormand plays a pregnant sheriff. (R)

"THE GREAT WHITE HYPE" (Fox, Oct. 1): Peter Berg ("Chicago Hope") plays a boxer lured into a series of grueling fights by a crafty promoter (Samuel L. Jackson). (R)

"MYSTERY SCIENCE THEATER 3000: THE MOVIE" (MCA/Universal, Oct. 1): The TV series returns to its movie roots by mocking the sci-fi classic "This Island Earth." (PG-13)

FAMILY VIEWING GUIDE KEY: AS, adult situations; N, nudity; P, profanity; V, violence; GV, particularly graphic violence.  
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## CROSSWORD PUZZLE



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| ACROSS           | DOWN            |
| 1 Was            | 1 Cassini       |
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| 3 Intertitle     | 3 College       |
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| 5 Delicate       | 5 Barroom       |
| 6 Bower of       | 6 Fresh-water   |
| 7 Branches       | 7 Wading bird   |
| 8 Dies           | 8 Because       |
| 9 Son of Seth    | 9 Sponge        |
| 10 Frown         | 10 Respects     |
| 11 Waterway      | 11 Graciously   |
| 12 Letters       | 12 Banister     |
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| 14 Fit to eat    | 14 Printing     |
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| 16 Opening for a | 16 Crucifix     |
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| 21 "a man        | 21 Composition  |
| 22 "mouse"       | 22 Luring       |
| 23 Pea or bean   | 23 Great        |
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|                  | 31 Is bright    |
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|                  | 33 Chinese      |
|                  | 34 Gelatin      |
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|                  | 38 Vicous dog   |
|                  | 39 Food and     |
|                  | 40 Drink        |
|                  | 41 Monster of   |
|                  | 42 Myth         |
|                  | 43 Water Gray   |
|                  | 44 Wise         |
|                  | 45 Romance      |
|                  | 46 lang         |
|                  | 47 Gist         |
|                  | 48 Was          |
|                  | 49 conscious of |
|                  | 50 Recite       |

## —THIS WEEK'S— HOROSCOPE

By Linda Black

Weekly Tip: Don't buy any machinery unless absolutely necessary. It might be — stuff tends to break down when Mercury's retrograde.

Aries (March 21-April 19). Literary endeavors should go well. Expect moments of creative genius. The pace is fast and furious. Debates will be abundant and intense.

Taurus (April 20-May 20). Take your time and get it right. The boss has something specific in mind — make sure you know what it is.

Gemini (May 21-June 21). The Muse will visit. Finish up that short story you're writing and send it to the publisher. Don't talk to your friends on company time — you'll miss something important.

Cancer (June 22-July 22). Paperwork concerning money dominates your life. Don't fight it. Make time for contemplation. Rest up for a flurry of activity that'll hit soon.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22). You're up against stiff opposition. Don't worry, love will find a way. Talk to the personnel counselor. You might qualify for a benefit you don't even know about.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). It's easy to make mistakes, or run into mistakes somebody else has made. Let friends help you through confusion.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). A fascinating conversation leads to an unusual friendship. Don't let an infatuation interfere with the job.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). An infatuation with an older person could disrupt your home life. Don't let it get out of hand. You'll see true love — if you're smart enough to recognize it.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Get a technical expert to help you solve a tricky problem. A friend's dilemma requires your attention.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Take time to do the research. Read the manual and talk to your friends. In the meantime, a hassle at home demands a solution.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're brilliant. Finish up old projects — don't start new ones. Buy lunch for a friend in repayment of a debt.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20). Fill out bureaucratic paperwork and get it turned in. Don't worry about money — think of a way to make more.

If You're Having a Birthday This Week: You may fall for an intellectual this year. You're also lucky at games you've played before. Work toward your dream.

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## Bridge

A Dash of Guile

By Omar Sharif and Tannah Hirsch

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH  
♠ 9 7  
♥ K J 9  
♦ A J 10 8 3  
♣ K J 10

EAST  
♠ K 6 5 4  
♥ 10 8 7 5 2  
♦ 7 6  
♣ A 9 8 4 3

SOUTH  
♠ A Q J 10 8 2  
♥ A Q  
♦ K Q 2  
♣ 7 6

The bidding:  
South West North East  
1♠ Pass 2NT Pass  
6♠ Pass

Opening lead: Three of ♠  
When skill alone might not be enough, it does no harm, circumstances permitting, to pull the wool over the opponent's eyes. South's sleight-of-hand here paid handsome dividends.

This hand is from a team match. Things had not been going well for North-South, so South barged to six spades in an attempt to recover something from earlier disasters. We recommend either a bid of three

spades, which would be forcing in this sequence, or an invitational jump to four no trump, inviting North to bid a small slam with a maximum two-no-trump response. Both actions would have kept the contract below the slam level.

Obviously, a club lead would have left declarer with no play. Indeed, that would have been our choice. Against a small slam, an attacking lead will gain more often than a salvo from three low cards. After a heart lead, it seemed that the contract hinged on the trump finesse, but declarer decided that, given a reprieve, he could engage in some skulduggery at little cost.

The first trick was taken with the ace of hearts, the queen of hearts was overtaken with the king and the jack of hearts was cashed for a diamond discard. Now the nine of spades was run to West's king.

West could not wait to shift to a diamond. Declarer won in hand, drew trumps and claimed the rest of the tricks.

While we applaud South's effort, West could have avoided the debacle by simply letting dummy's nine of spades hold the first lead of the suit. On the second round of trumps East would signal by discarding a high club, and the defenders will get the two tricks which were their due.

## Jumble

Unscramble these four words, one letter in each square, to form four ordinary words.

PINYP  
RYDYL  
MOARFT  
BITLEG

Answer here: \_\_\_\_\_

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.



## Words of Wisdom

When you borrow money, you sell your freedom.

Those who do not strive to become greater, become smaller.

The weak use circumstances as an excuse for failure; the strong use circumstances as an impetus for success.

Planning keeps us young.

The richest person is the one who owes no one.

Events that invoke the most curiosity are usually things that are no one else's business.

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## "Wedding traditions around the world"

UNDER THE patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvath.

The participating embassies and the international community in Jordan in cooperation with the Young Muslim Women's Association are organising "Wedding traditions around the world."

It will be held on Wednesday, 9 October at 4.45 pm at the Amra Hotel in aid of YMWA's charitable projects. At JD 20, tickets are available at the Princess Sarvath College (641293/689482). Mrs Wedad Khalifa (641003) and the Embassy of Pakistan in Amman (638352). ■



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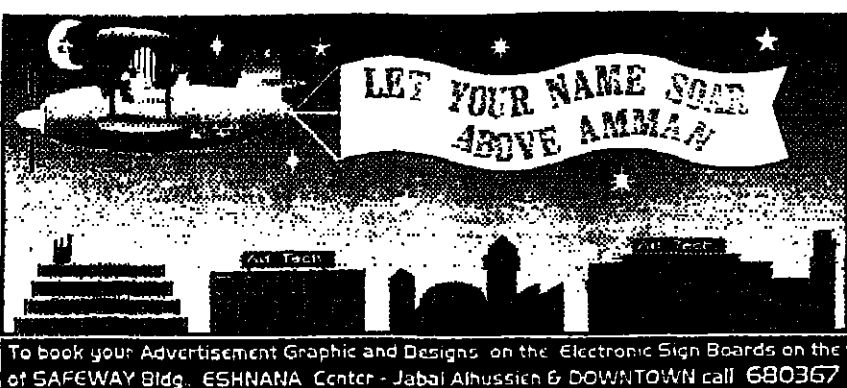


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American Centre Library	820101	Plaza Cinema	699238
British Council	6361478	Philadelpia Cinema	634144
French Cultural Centre	637009		
Goethe Institute	641993		
Carvantes Institute (Spanish)	618958		
Turkish Cultural Centre	639777		
Haya Arts Centre	665195		
Y.W.C.A.	641793		
Dar al Foun	643252		
Alia Art Gallery	639303		
Baladina Art Gallery	657132		
Nabil Al Mashini Theatre	675571		
Nabil & Hisham's Theatre	625155		

## Sports Clubs

Orthodox Club	667181/5
Royal Automobile Club	810491
Royal Shooting Club	736572
Royal Chess Club	673713
Royal Racing Club	09-801233
Jordan Bridge Club	076990
Amman Mun. Library	636111
Univ. of Jordan Library	843555
R.S.C.N.	837931/837937



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Agriculture	686151	Parliamentary Affairs	641211
Asaf & Islamic Affairs	686141	Planning	644466
Culture / Jabal Amman	636391	Post & Communications	624301
Education & Higher Education	669181	Public Health	665131
Energy & Mineral Resources	815615	Public Works & Housing	668481
Finance	636321	Social Development	673191
Foreign Affairs	644361	Supplies	602121
Industry & Trade	663191	Tourism & Antiquities	642311
Information	641467	Transport	641461
Interior Ministry	663111	Water & Irrigation	680100
Justice	663101	Youth / University	604701

## Diplomatic Corps

Algerian	641271/2
Australian	673246/7
Austrian	644635
Bahraini	664148/9
Brazilian	642183
Belgian	675683
Bulgarian	818151
Canadian	666124
Chilean	823360
Cyprus Honorary Cons	677559
Czech	671813/666135
Danish Consulate Gen	603703
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Icelandic Consulate	698851
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Netherlands	619649 / 619693
New Zealand Consulate	636720
North Korean	666349
Norwegian Embassy	644932/4
Omani	686155
Pakistani	622787
Palestine	677517
People's Rep. of China	666139
Philippines	645161
Polish	637153
Romanian	682666
Russian	667738
Saudi Arabian	814154/6
Slovenia Honorary Cons	861542
Sri Lanka, Consulate	645312
South Korean	660745/6
South Africa	811194
Spanish	614166/9
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Swedish	669177/9
Swiss	686416/7
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Taiwan	671530
Tunisian	674307/8
Turkish	641251
U.A.E.	643347/643341
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United States	820101
Yemen	642381
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UNESCO	606559

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Aeromexico	694802
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Air Lanka	682140
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Allyemda (Air yemen)	653691
American Airlines	669068
Arab Wings	894484
Austrian Airlines	693845/694604
Balkan Airlines	665909
British Midland	694802
British Airways	825801
Cathay Pacific	628596
China Airlines	636232
Cyprus Airways	667028
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Egypt Air	630011
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Civil Defence H.Q.	193/198/199
Fire Brigade	622040/913
Ambulance	199
Blood Bank	775121
Traffic Police	625043/639703
Traffic Accidents	897467/8
Highway Police	787111

## Hospitals

Akheh Maternity	642441/2
Al-Ahli, Abdali	664164/6
Al-Bashir, Ashrafieh	775111/26
Al-Muasher Hospital	667227/9
Amal Hospital	674155
Army, Marka	891611/15
Hussein Medical Centre	813813
Ibrahim Al-Mutajreen	777101/3
Jabal Amman Maternity	642162
Khalidi Maternity	644281/6
Malhas, J. Amman	636141
Palestine, Shmeisani	664171/4
Queen Alia Hospital	602240/50
Shmeisani Hospital	607431
The Islamic, Abdali	660127/37
University Hospital	845845

## General

Amman Municipality	843402
Electricity Complaints	121
Prices complaints	666181
Hotel complaints	08/53200
Severage Complaints	896390
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